

Hypoglycemia low blood sugar in adults

What are the signs?

Each person will have their own way of recognizing low blood sugar.

Some of the signs include:



Severity



Sweating



Trembling



Palpitations



Anxiety



Hunger



Nausea



Headache



Tingling



Disturbed sleep



Weird dreams



Weakness/
dizziness



Difficulty concentrating



Vision changes



Drowsiness



Difficulty speaking



Unconsciousness

Why does low blood sugar happen?

Have you:

- Eaten less than planned?
- Eaten later than normal?
- Taken more medication than planned?
- Been more active than planned?
- Drunk any alcohol within the past 24 hours?

Fear of "lows" is common and normal. If you are having lows, speak with your diabetes team:

- Doctor • Nurse practitioner • Pharmacist
- Nurse • Dietitian

How to take action

EAT fast-acting sugar



15 g of glucose in the form of glucose tablets



1 tablespoon (15 mL) of honey



1 tablespoon (15 mL) sugar in water



2/3 cup (150 mL) of juice or regular soft drink



15 g fast-acting sugar (e.g. 6 Life Savers® or 2 rolls Rocket Candy)



WAIT 15 minutes and **CHECK**



If blood sugar is **ABOVE** 4.0mmol/L **AND** next meal is **in the hour**



If blood sugar is **ABOVE** 4.0mmol/L **AND** next meal is **LONGER than 1 hour away**

If blood sugar is **BELOW** 4.0mmol/L **REPEAT steps above**



Eat ONE of:

Starch:
ex. 7 crackers OR 1 slice of bread

AND

Protein:

ex. 1 piece of cheese OR 2 tablespoons of peanut butter



Are you Driving?

After treating a low, **Wait** until your blood sugar is above 5 mmol/L to start driving. Your brain might need up to 40 minutes to recover before you can safely drive again.

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