MONITORING BLOOD GLUCOSE LEVELS IN DIABETIC DOGS AND CATS

ROUTINE MONITORING

Is the patient exhibiting clinical signs?

Yes, and the dose is less than 0.5 U/kg BID (dogs) or 2 U/cat BID

Increase by 10% or ½ unit/patient (whichever is greater) every 7–14 days until they reach ≥ 0.5 U/kg (dogs) or 2 U/cat BID

Consider stress hyperglycemia; maintain on same dose; recheck in 1 month

If clinical signs remain controlled & stress hyperglycemia remains a problem, use other monitoring techniques (fructosamine, UG, monitoring weight)

Yes, and the dose is greater than 0.5 U/kg BID (dogs) or 2 U/cat BID

Maintaining/gaining

Keep insulin dose the same; recheck BGC in 1–3 months

Losing

Consider dose increase by 10% or ½ unit/patient (whichever is greater) & recheck in 14 days

Assess the patient’s weight

No clinical signs

Nadir > 150 mg/dl

Clinical signs reported

DOG: Increase dose 10–25% and perform BGC in 7–14 days

CAT: Increase 0.5–1 U/dose; if giving every 24 hours, consider BID; perform BGC in 7–14 days

Nadir 80–150 mg/dl

Clinical signs reported

Maintain on same dose of insulin

Nadir < 80 mg/dl

No clinical signs

See “Hypoglycemia Algorithm”

INITIAL MONITORING

.loss of control in a previously controlled diabetic

LOSS OF CONTROL IN A PREVIOUSLY CONTROLLED DIABETIC

Is the patient exhibiting clinical signs?

Yes, and the dose is less than 0.5 U/kg BID (dogs) or 2 U/cat BID

Maintaining/gaining

Keep insulin dose the same; recheck BGC in 1–3 months

Losing

Consider dose increase by 10% or ½ unit/patient (whichever is greater) & recheck in 14 days

Assess the patient’s weight

No clinical signs

Nadir > 150 mg/dl

Clinical signs reported

DOG: Increase dose 10–25% and perform BGC in 7–14 days

CAT: Increase 0.5–1 U/dose; if giving every 24 hours, consider BID; perform BGC in 7–14 days

Nadir 80–150 mg/dl

Clinical signs reported

Maintain on same dose of insulin

Nadir < 80 mg/dl

No clinical signs

See “Hypoglycemia Algorithm”