



*A diabetic dog generally needs continual veterinary treatment, medical supplies, and special food to manage their condition and maintain a good quality of life.*

### Why It's So Expensive to Care for Diabetic Dogs

GENERAL COSTS	FREQUENCY
<b>Insulin</b> <b>\$150 per bottle</b>	Only lasts 4 to 6 weeks generally depending on the size of the dog and number of units (volume of dose) administered per day.
<b>Syringes (box of 100)</b> <b>\$29.50 plus tax</b>	Just 7 weeks generally.
<b>Vet Diagnosis and Treatment Plan Evaluation</b> <b>Varies</b>	Some dogs can be regulated within 2 to 3 vet visits to establish the dose of insulin to keep blood sugar stable, while other dogs need as many as 4 initial vet visits then multiple vet visits throughout the year to address dose changes, which is why these costs are very specific to each diabetic dog.
<b>Blood Glucose Testing</b> <b>\$12.50 Per Test</b> <b>(Plus Exam Fee)</b>	At least every other month if the dog does well on their insulin dose. This can be required more often if there's difficulty regulating their blood sugar.
<b>Blood Glucose Curve Test</b> <b>\$97.00</b>	Two to 4 times a year a diabetic dog needs a more involved blood glucose monitoring test called a blood glucose curve. With this test, the dog spends a day at the vet and has 4 to 5 blood draws throughout the day for blood sugar values to determine if a change in insulin dose is needed.
<b>Prescription Diet Food</b> <b>\$49 to \$84</b>	Vets prescribe a prescription diet food, usually Hill's w/d or similar brand glucose diet. The average range of costs depends on whether the vet has prescribed canned or dry food or both and the dog's size.
<b>Emergency Crisis Treatments</b> <b>\$450 to \$1,000</b>	If a diabetic dog's blood sugar is unstable (too high or too low), there can be a wide range of costs if the dog needs treatment over 2 to 3 days with daily drop offs/pick ups at the regular vet or needs to stay in a 24-hour emergency facility.
<b>Related Medical Conditions</b> <b>Varies</b>	Diabetic dogs can be prone to pancreatitis, urinary tract infections, blindness, enlarged liver, seizures, kidney failure, ketoacidosis, and infections in general, which can destabilize blood sugar. All require additional treatment.

*Types of treatments, costs, and frequency listed are for general information only as each dog's needs guide their care.*