

Afrezza (insulin) basics

Controls mealtime blood sugar. Afrezza (insulin) is effective at controlling blood sugar, but you can't use it if you've had lung problems or smoke.

What to expect when starting

Here's when people typically experience benefits as well as some possible side effects. Your experience may be different.

	Hours	Days	Weeks	Months	Long term
Afrezza (insulin) Drug effectiveness					
Possible side effects†					
Cough					
Throat irritation					
Headache					
Diarrhea					
Fatigue					
Low blood sugar					

† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

Tips from pharmacists

- Take Afrezza (insulin) exactly as your doctor or pharmacist tells you, otherwise you might not get the full dose of the medicine.
- Keep Afrezza (insulin) in the fridge until you're ready to use it. The Afrezza (insulin) cartridges and inhaler should be left at room temperature for 10 minutes before you use it.
- You should inhale Afrezza (insulin) at the beginning of a meal.
- Avoid drinking alcohol or using over-the-counter medications that contain alcohol while on Afrezza (insulin).
- Avoid driving or operating heavy machinery until you know how Afrezza (insulin) can affect you.
- If you're using a long-acting insulin, you need to keep using it with Afrezza (insulin).

Risks and warnings

The FDA has identified these as possible serious or life-threatening risks with this medication. Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

Breathing problems

Rarely, Afrezza (insulin) can cause breathing problems that can be very dangerous. Because of this, you can't use Afrezza (insulin) if you've had asthma or COPD. If you have other lung problems, talk to your doctor to see if Afrezza (insulin) is safe.

Low blood sugar

Low blood potassium levels

Afrezza (insulin) can lower levels of potassium in your blood which can be dangerous. You're more at risk if you're already taking medicines that lower your potassium. Your doctor will check your potassium levels regularly and might give you medicines to keep your potassium normal.