

# Apidra (insulin glulisine) basics

**Controls blood sugar.** Apidra (insulin glulisine) is an insulin that controls blood sugar during your meals, but you'll still have to follow your doctor's diet and exercise plan.

## 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
<b>Apidra (insulin glulisine)</b> Drug effectiveness					
<b>Possible side effects†</b>					
<b>Common cold</b>					
<b>Flu</b>					
<b>High blood pressure</b>					
<b>Joint pain</b>					
<b>Low blood sugar</b>					

† Data on frequency of side effects is not available.

## Tips from pharmacists

- Starts working within 10 to 30 minutes, and lasts for up to 5 hours.
- Take Apidra (insulin glulisine) 15 minutes before a meal or within 20 minutes after starting a meal.
- Don't mix Apidra (insulin glulisine) for under the skin injection with any other insulin except Novolin N or Humulin N. Don't mix Apidra (insulin glulisine) with any other insulin if you're using an insulin pump.
- Don't use Apidra (insulin glulisine) if it looks cloudy or changes color, it's leaking or if there are particles in it.
- Change the area where you inject Apidra (insulin glulisine) every time.
- Keep all unopened vials or pens of Apidra (insulin glulisine) in the fridge until you're ready to use it. You can keep opened vials and pens at room temperature, but throw it away after 28 days.

## Risks and warnings

Contact your doctor if you experience any of these.

### Sharing of pen and needles

Never share Apidra (insulin glulisine) pens, syringes or needles with anyone else. Sharing Apidra (insulin glulisine) with someone puts you at risk of getting very dangerous diseases.

### Low blood sugar

Apidra (insulin glulisine) alone or together with other diabetic medicines can cause low blood sugar. Very low blood sugar may be life-threatening. Talk to your doctor about the symptoms of low blood sugar, and how to treat it.

### Severe allergic reactions

Rarely, Apidra (insulin glulisine) can cause severe allergic reactions that can be life threatening. Go to the emergency room right away if you suddenly have problems breathing, a blistering skin rash with a high fever, or if you feel your face, mouth, or throat swell up.