Florida Department of Health, Disability and Health Program University of Florida

What is Diabetes?

More than 25 Million Americans have Diabetes

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Diabetes is a condition where sugar (glucose) cannot enter cells. This makes sugar stay in the blood, where your body can't turn it into energy.

Diabetes Risk Factors

- \square Over the age of 45
- ☐ Overweight/obese
- ☐ Exercising less than 3 times per week
- ☐ Hypertension
 (Blood pressure
 greater than 140/90
 mmHG)
- ☐ A part of to one of these groups of people
- African American
- Native American
- Asian American
- Pacific Islander
- Hispanic

Types of Diabetes

- Type 1
 - The body does not make the hormone insulin. Your body needs insulin to break down sugar and turn it into energy.
 - Type 1 diabetes is usually diagnosed in children and young adults, but it lasts a lifetime.
 - o Type 1 diabetes can't be prevented. Early diagnosis is important for managing the disease and staying healthy.
- Type 2
 - Type 2 diabetes is most common in adults 45 years or older, who are overweight, or have a family history of diabetes.
 - Body fat affects the way insulin works, and the body cannot break down sugar. Blood sugar levels stay high and start to harm your organs.

Prediabetes

- O A condition where sugar levels are high, but not high enough to be considered diabetes.
- O People with prediabetes can go back to normal sugar levels by exercising and eating healthy foods.

Diabetes Symptoms

Prevention Checklist

Healthy habits help prevent diabetes

Make Healthy Food Choices:

- ☐ Speak with your doctor to make a healthy meal plan
- ☐ Avoid foods that are high in calories, fat, sugar, and salt
- ☐ Eat foods that are high in fiber
- ☐ Eat foods such as grains, fruits, and vegetables

Be Active:

☐ Get at least

150 minutes of
physical activity
each week (e.g., 30
minutes x 5
days/week)

Avoid Stress: stress can raise your blood sugar

☐ Find ways to lower stress, such as listening to music, relaxing, and gardening

Diabetes symptoms include:

Overly Tired



Frequent Urination



Slow Wound Healing



Overly Thirsty



Blurry Vision



Overly Hungry



Checking for Diabetes

- O **Find out if you are at risk.** Visit flhealth.gov/diabetes and take a quick quiz.
- O If you are at risk for type 2 diabetes, ask your doctor for a test.
- O If your doctor says you have prediabetes, take the diabetes prevention program. Find a program near you at https://nccd.cdc.gov/DDT_DPRP/CitiesList.aspx?STATE=FL
- O **If you have type 2 diabetes, take a recognized diabetes self-management education class.** Find a program near you at flhealth.gov/diabetes/type-2/dsme.html