

## **INSULIN INJECTION GUIDE FOR PETS**

**Prepare the Insulin** Inspect the insulin for discoloration or crystallization. Do no use insulin if it is discolored or any crystals, clumps or white particles remain after mixing. If the insulin is in the form of a suspension (e.g. ProZinc) gently roll and turn the bottle until thoroughly mixed. For Vetsulin/Caninsulin shake more forcefully to mix until a homogenous milky suspension is obtained and allow any foam to disperse. If your Veterinarian has recommended Glargine, or another insulin solution, a mixing step is not necessary.

**Prepare the Syringe** Ensure that the syringe being used matches the concentration of insulin. For example U-40 syringes should be used for U-40 insulin, U-100 for U-100 insulin. Please note: A red needle cap signifies a U-40 syringe and an orange needle cap signifies a U-100 syringe.



6. Lastly, remove the needle from the bottle and check again that the dose is correct and there are no air bubbles trapped in the syringe. Be careful not to allow the sterile needle to touch anything. Now you are ready to give the injection.



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Administer the Insulin In most cases it is usual to feed your pet prior to giving insulin. If your pet does not want to eat, follow directions from your veterinarian. Talk to your pet and make sure that they are relaxed and will stay still for the injection. Giving the injection while the pet is eating may be helpful in this regard. If necessary, ask someone to hold the pet. (You may want to have someone else hold the pet for the first few injections, keeping their hands and face clear from the animal's mouth.)

1. Identify an injection location in the loose skin over the animal's shoulders. Follow your veterinarian's instructions as to the best location, but be sure to vary the location, so that the injection is administered into a slightly different location each time.
Injection Site
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Immediately remove the syringe. Check that no insulin escaped onto the surface of the skin or into the fur. If you suspect that leakage has happened do not repeat the dose of insulin but do record it in your note book. It is a good idea to keep a notebook and record the time of every injection, the dose given, and any complications.

Inject

Tent

**Proper Disposal** Place the syringe into a safety container without recapping the needle. NEVER dispose of used insulin syringes directly into the trash. Follow your state and local regulations when disposing of used needles.