

Your doctor may prescribe a brand of insulin called Novolog to help manage your diabetes.

When you have diabetes, your body does not make enough insulin or it doesn't use the insulin your body does make properly resulting in high blood glucose (or sugar).

Injecting Novolog can help you keep your blood glucose in a healthy range.

Novolog is a Rapid Acting insulin, which means it begins to work very quickly – within 5 - 10 minutes. It works hardest from 1 to 3 hours, and it lasts a total of 3-5 hours.

When taking Novolog, one possible side effect is hypoglycemia or low blood sugar. Do not take Novolog until you are ready to eat.

Because Novolog begins to lower your blood sugar almost immediately, you must eat 5 to 10 minutes after you take it. Otherwise, your blood sugar could drop too low.

Low blood sugar is a serious side effect and can cause: headache, weakness, a cold sweat or clammy feeling, shakiness, hunger, fast heartbeat, irritability, vision changes and dizziness.

If you ignore it, Hypoglycemia can get worse and you can pass out.

Discuss the best ways to deal with low blood sugar with your doctor and always carry a fast-acting carbohydrate such as glucose tablets or gel, available at any pharmacy.

Other possible side effects include: redness, swelling or itching at the injection site; and an allergic reaction, such as hives or difficulty breathing.

If you have an allergic reaction call 911 immediately!

Discuss the complete list of side effects with your doctor before taking Novolog.

Before using Novolog, tell your doctor if you have a history of liver or kidney problems. Your dose may need to be adjusted.

Meet with your doctor to determine how much Novolog to take and how best to take it.

Whether you are using a syringe or insulin pen, Novolog should be injected into fatty tissue, just below the skin.

The recommended injection areas are: the abdomen or belly, the backs of the arms, the tops or sides of the thigh, and the buttocks or rear.

Try to rotate your injection site using a regular pattern, like a clock. This helps keep your skin and underlying tissues healthy.

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Novolog

Store any extra, unopened Novolog in your refrigerator. Once opened, Novolog can be stored at room temperature and must be used within 28 days or discarded even if some Novolog is left.

Do not use Novolog past the expiration date printed on the bottle or pen.

Never store any insulin in a place that is too hot or too cold.

And never use Novolog that is yellowish. Novolog should be clear and colorless.

If you have any questions about Novolog, ask your doctor or pharmacist for more information.