Assistive Devices for People With Diabetes and Vision Loss

It is important for people with diabetes to monitor blood glucose as often as recommended by their physician. There are now large screen and talking blood glucose monitors, easy-to-use test strips, and adaptive syringes, all designed to help people with impaired vision manage their diabetes.

Many of the following products come with written, audio and/or video instructions. However, it is best to work with a diabetes educator or rehabilitation teacher who can provide instruction and guidance in the use of these devices and make sure they are being used correctly.

**Large Display Glucose Monitors**

**Accu-Chek© Advantage**
Roche Diagnostics Corporation
9115 Hague Road
P.O. Box 50457
Indianapolis, IN 46256
Tel 1: (800) 858 - 8072
Tel 2: (317) 521 - 2000
Fax: (317) 521 - 2090

**Ascensia ELITE© or Ascensia ELITE©XL**
Bayer
100 Bayer Rd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15205-9741
Tel: (800) 348 - 8100
[www.bayercarediabetes.com](http://www.bayercarediabetes.com)

**OneTouch© SureStep©**
LifeScan, Inc.
1000 Gibraltar Drive
Milpitas, CA 95035
Tel: (800) 227 - 8862; (408) 263 - 9789
See the world through our vision simulators. The image above is a simulation of a cataract.

View more vision simulations here.

Fax: (408) 942 - 6070
www.lifescan.com

Talking Glucose Monitors

LifeScan's One Touch© Profile®, OneTouch© Basic© and OneTouch© SureStep© glucose monitors can be connected to a synthetic voice attachment such as the Digi-Voice Deluxe or Mini Digi-Voice for easy-to-follow, clearly spoken testing instructions and results. While these voice attachments can be purchased separately, there are also talking glucose monitors such as the Talking One Touch© Basic© and The Accu-Chek™ Voicemate Talking Blood Glucose System (also available in Spanish) that are sold with a voice attachment included. The following vendors can be contacted to get information about their products.

Independent Living Aids, Inc.
P.O. Box 9022
Hicksville, NY 11802
Tel: (800) 537 - 2118
Fax: (516) 937 - 3906
E-mail: can-do@independentliving.com
www.independentliving.com

LS&S
P.O. Box 673
Northbrook, IL 60065
Tel: (800) 468 - 4789
Fax: (847) 498 - 1482
TTY: (866) 317 - 8533
E-mail: info@LSSproducts.com
www.lssproducts.com

Liberty Medical Supply, Inc.
10045 South Federal Highway
Port St. Lucie, FL 34952
Tel: (866) 836 - 9935
www.libertymedical.com

Maxi-Aids
42 Executive Boulevard
Test Strips

Easy-to-use test strips can make glucose monitoring more manageable for people who are visually impaired. Features that can make testing easier: test strips that can be touched so you don't have to worry about how you handle them, strips that require just a tiny blood drop because the test strip draws in the right amount, a curved test strip that fits easily onto your finger. Other test strips feature a large test spot that contrasts with the color of the rest of the strip. Since most glucose monitors use specific test strips, it is important to investigate the accessibility of the test strip for the monitor you intend to purchase.

Insulin Administration Assistive Devices

Accurate measurement of insulin can be achieved with special insulin syringes/devices

Count-a-Dose™ has a slide into which the syringe fits. A click wheel, moved by fingertip, guides the slide backward, filling the syringe in single unit increments from one to 50 units. It can be used for single and mixed doses.

Available at:

Medicool, Inc.
20460 Gramercy Place
Torrence, CA 90501
Tel 1: (800) 433 - 2469;
Tel 2: (310) 782 - 2200
Fax: (310) 782 - 8900
E-mail: questions@medicool.com
www.medicool.com

The **Autopen** insulin pen is engineered for use with most pre-filled insulin cartridges. The one-step dose selector allows insulin to be delivered at the touch of a button.

Available at:

**Owen Mumford Inc.**
1755-A West Oak Commons Court
Marietta, GA 30062
Tel: (800) 421 - 6936
Fax: (770) 977 - 2866
Email: info@owenmumfordinc.com
www.owenmumford.com (mail order service in UK only)

**Maxi-Aids**
42 Executive Boulevard
Farmingdale, NY 11735
Tel: (800) 522 - 6294
Fax: (631) 752 - 0689
TTY: (631) 752 - 0738
www.maxiaids.com

**Syringe Support** includes calibrated screws with tactile guidelines for drawing up varying doses. It can be used for single or mixed doses.

Available at:

**The Eye-Dea Shop**
Cleveland Sight Center
1909 East 101st Street
Cleveland, OH 44106 - 8696
Tel (216) 791 - 8118 ext. 278

**Maxi-Aids**

**Syringe magnifiers provide magnification of the syringe.**

The **BD Magni-Guide™** works as both an insulin syringe scale magnifier and a needle guide. The needle guide is helpful for
centering the syringe needle when inserting it into an insulin bottle. The magnifier makes reading easier by enlarging the numbers and markings on the syringe to twice their actual size. The guide works best with vials from Lilly.

Available at:

**BD**

1 Becton Drive  
Franklin Lakes, NJ USA 07417  
Tel: (888) 232 - 2737; (201) 847 - 6800  
Fax: (201) 847 - 4856  
[www.bddiabetes.com](http://www.bddiabetes.com)

The **TruHand** syringe magnification device works with 25 to 100 unit syringes.

Available at:

**Whittier Medical Inc.**

865 Turnpike Street  
North Andover, MA 01845  
Tel: (800) 645 - 1115  
Fax: (978) 685 - 0049

Syringe Magnifiers are also available at **Maxi-Aids** and **LS&S**

**Record Keeping Devices**

Other assistive products can be helpful in monitoring blood sugar intake such as large print registers for recording blood glucose levels and for keeping food diaries. Maxi-Aids sells an accurate, easy-to-read record keeping system for blood sugar, mealtimes, injections and pills.

Available at:

**Independent Living Aids, Inc.**

P.O. Box 9022  
Hicksville, NY 11802  
Tel: (800) 537 - 2118  
Fax: (516) 937 - 3906  
E-mail: can-do@independentliving.com  
[www.independentliving.com](http://www.independentliving.com)
What You Can Do

- Sign Up for Our e-newsletter!
- Become a Volunteer
- Find Help Near You