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# 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

[www.accu-chek.com/products/index\\_purchase.jsp](http://www.accu-chek.com/products/index_purchase.jsp)

### **Ascensia ELITE® or Ascensia ELITE®XL**

Bayer

100 Bayer Rd.

Pittsburgh, PA 15205-9741

Tel: (800) 348 - 8100

[www.bayercaresdiabetes.com](http://www.bayercaresdiabetes.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](http://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](mailto:can-do@independentliving.com)

[www.independentliving.com](http://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](mailto:info@LSSproducts.com)

[www.lssproducts.com](http://www.lssproducts.com)

#### **Liberty Medical Supply, Inc.**

10045 South Federal Highway

Port St. Lucie, FL 34952

Tel: (866) 836 - 9935

[www.libertymedical.com](http://www.libertymedical.com)

#### **Maxi-Aids**

42 Executive Boulevard

Farmingdale, NY 11735

Tel: (800) 522 - 6294

Fax: (631) 752 - 0689

TTY: (631) 752 - 0738

[www.maxiaids.com](http://www.maxiaids.com)

### **Science Products**

Box 888

Southeastern, PA 19399

Tel: (800) 888 - 7400

Fax: (610) 296 - 0488

### **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

Torrance, CA 90501

Tel 1: (800) 433 - 2469;

Tel 2: (310) 782 - 2200

Fax: (310) 782 - 8900

E-mail: [questions@medicool.com](mailto:questions@medicool.com)

[www.medicool.com](http://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](mailto:info@owenmumfordinc.com)

[www.owenmumford.com](http://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](http://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](mailto:can-do@independentliving.com)  
[www.independentliving.com](http://www.independentliving.com)

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[www.lssproducts.com](http://www.lssproducts.com)

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