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2. Novolog

# NovoLog

**Generic name:** [insulin aspart](#) [ *IN-su-lin-AS-part* ]

**Brand names:** NovoLog, [NovoLog FlexPen](#), [NovoLog PenFill](#)

**Drug class:** [Insulin](#)

Medically reviewed by [Melisa Puckey, BPharm](#). Last updated on Jul 26, 2024.

[Uses](#)   [Side effects](#)   [Warnings](#)   [Before taking](#)   [Dosage](#)   [Interactions](#)   [FAQ](#)

## What is NovoLog?

NovoLog is a fast-acting insulin that starts to work about 15 minutes after injection, peaks in about 1 hour, and keeps working for 2 to 4 hours. Insulin is a hormone that works by lowering levels of glucose (sugar) in the blood.

NovoLog is used to improve blood sugar control in adults and children with [diabetes mellitus](#).

This medicine is sometimes used together with a long-acting or intermediate-acting insulin.

Novolog is available as:

- NovoLog 10 mL vial
- NovoLog FlexPen
- NovoPen Echo

## NovoLog side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of an allergic reaction to NovoLog**: redness or swelling where an injection was given, itchy skin rash over the entire body, trouble breathing, fast heartbeats, feeling like you might pass out, or swelling in your tongue or throat.

Call your doctor at once if you have:

- **heart problems** - swelling, rapid weight gain, feeling short of breath; or
- **low potassium** - leg cramps, constipation, irregular heartbeats, fluttering in your chest, increased thirst or urination, numbness or tingling, muscle weakness or limp feeling.

Common NovoLog side effects may include:

- low blood sugar;
- weight gain;

- low potassium;
- swelling in your hands and feet;
- skin rash, itching, redness, or swelling; or
- thickening or hollowing of the skin where you injected the medicine.

This is not a complete list of side effects and others may occur. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

 [Novolog side effects](#) (more detail)

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6.6 / 10

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Basaglar (insulin glargine) is a long-acting insulin that is used to improve blood sugar control in ...

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## Levemir

Levemir (insulin detemir) is a long acting insulin used to treat diabetes in adults and children ...

### Reviews & ratings

4.6 / 10

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## Warnings

NovoLog is a fast-acting insulin that begins to work very quickly. After using it, you should eat a meal within 5 to 10 minutes.

Never share an injection pen or cartridge with another person. Sharing injection pens or cartridges can allow disease such as hepatitis or HIV to pass from one person to another.

You should not use NovoLog if you are having an episode of hypoglycemia (low blood sugar).

## Before taking this medicine

You should not use NovoLog if you are allergic to insulin aspart, or if you are having an episode of hypoglycemia (low blood sugar).

To make sure NovoLog is safe for you, tell your doctor if you have:

- liver or kidney disease; or
- low levels of potassium in your blood (hypokalemia).

Tell your doctor if you also take pioglitazone or rosiglitazone (sometimes contained in combinations with glimepiride or metformin). Taking certain oral diabetes medicines while you are using insulin may increase your risk of serious heart problems.

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

Follow your doctor's instructions about using insulin **if you are pregnant or you become pregnant. Controlling diabetes is very important during pregnancy, and having high blood sugar may cause complications in both the mother and the baby.**

 [Novolog pregnancy and breastfeeding warnings](#) (more detail)

## How should I use NovoLog?

Use NovoLog exactly as it was prescribed for you. Follow all directions on your prescription label. Do not use this medicine in larger or smaller amounts or for longer than recommended.

NovoLog is injected under the skin, or into a vein through an IV. You will be shown how to use injections at home. Do not give yourself this medicine if you do not understand how to use the injection and properly dispose of needles, IV tubing, and other items used.

Your care provider will show you the best places on your body to inject NovoLog. Use a different place each time you give an injection. Do not inject into the same place two times in a row.

Do not inject this medicine into skin that is damaged, tender, bruised, pitted, thickened, scaly, or has a scar or hard lump.

After using NovoLog, you should eat a meal within 5 to 10 minutes.

If you use an injection pen, use only the injection pen that comes with NovoLog. Attach a new needle before each use. Do not transfer the insulin from the pen into a syringe or infusion pump.

If you use this medicine with an insulin pump, do not mix or dilute NovoLog with any other insulin. Infusion pump tubing, catheters, and the needle location on your skin should be changed every 3 days. Change the medicine in the reservoir every 6 days.

Prepare an injection only when you are ready to give it. **This medicine should be clear and colorless. Do not use the medicine if it has changed colors or has particles in it.** Call your pharmacist for new medicine.

Never share an injection pen, cartridge, or syringe with another person, even if the needle has been changed. Sharing these devices can allow infections or disease to pass from one person to another.

Use a disposable needle or syringe only once. Follow any state or local laws about throwing away used needles and syringes. Use a puncture-proof "sharps" disposal container (ask your pharmacist where to get one and how to throw it away). Keep this container out of the reach of children and pets.

Low blood sugar (**hypoglycemia**) can happen to anyone who has diabetes. Symptoms include headache, hunger, sweating, irritability, dizziness, nausea, and feeling anxious or shaky. To quickly treat low blood sugar, always keep a

fast-acting source of sugar with you such as fruit juice, hard candy, crackers, raisins, or non-diet soda.

Your doctor can prescribe a glucagon emergency injection kit to use in case you have severe hypoglycemia and cannot eat or drink. Be sure your family and close friends know how to give you this injection in an emergency.

Also watch for signs of high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) such as increased thirst or urination, blurred vision, headache, and tiredness.

Blood sugar levels can be affected by stress, illness, surgery, exercise, alcohol use, medications, or skipping meals. **Ask your doctor before changing your insulin dose or medication schedule.**

NovoLog is only part of a treatment program that may also include diet, exercise, weight control, blood sugar testing, and special medical care. Follow your doctor's instructions very closely.

Use a needle and syringe only once and then place them in a puncture-proof "sharps" container. Follow state or local laws about how to dispose of this container. Keep it out of the reach of children and pets.

Read all patient information, medication guides, and instruction sheets provided to you. Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions.

Wear a diabetes medical alert tag in case of emergency. Any medical care provider who treats you should know that you have diabetes.

 [Detailed NovoLog dosage information](#)

## What happens if I miss a dose?

Since NovoLog is used before meals, you may not be on a timed dosing schedule. Whenever you use NovoLog, be sure to eat a meal within 5 to 10 minutes. Do not use extra insulin to make up a missed dose.

Keep insulin on hand at all times. Get your prescription refilled before you run out of medicine completely.

## What happens if I overdose?

Seek emergency medical attention or call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222. **Insulin overdose can cause life-threatening hypoglycemia.** Symptoms include drowsiness, confusion, blurred vision, numbness or tingling in your mouth, trouble speaking, muscle weakness, clumsy or jerky movements, seizure (convulsions), or loss of consciousness.

## What should I avoid while using NovoLog?

Insulin can cause low blood sugar. Avoid driving or operating machinery until you know how this medicine will affect you.

**Avoid medication errors by always checking the medicine label before injecting your insulin.**

Avoid drinking alcohol or using medicines that contain alcohol. Alcohol can cause low blood sugar and may interfere with your diabetes treatment.

## What other drugs will affect NovoLog?

Many other medicines can affect your blood sugar, and some medicines can increase or decrease the effects of insulin.

Some drugs can also cause you to have fewer symptoms of hypoglycemia, making it harder to tell when your blood sugar is low. Tell each of your health care providers about all medicines you use now and any medicine you start or stop using. This includes prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal products.

 [Novolog drug interactions](#) (more detail)

## Does Novolog interact with my other drugs?

Enter medications to view a detailed interaction report using our [Drug Interaction Checker](#).

Novolog

+

Enter a drug name

Add

## NovoLog and Medicare

Because of the prescription drug law, known as the Inflation Reduction Act, Medicare is able to negotiate directly with drug companies to improve access to some of the costliest single-source brand-name Medicare Part B and Part D drugs.

NovoLog is one of 10 drugs covered under Medicare Part D that were selected in 2024 for the first cycle of negotiation based on Total Expenditures under Part D and other criteria as required by the law. Negotiations with participating drug companies are ongoing, and any negotiated prices for the first cycle of negotiation is effective from 2026.

## Storage

Dispense in the original sealed carton with the enclosed Instructions for Use. Store unused insulin in a refrigerator between 2°C to 8°C (36°F to 46°F). Do not freeze insulin and do not use insulin if it has been frozen. Do not expose insulin to excessive heat or light. Do not withdraw insulin into a syringe and store for later use.

Always remove and discard the needle after each injection from the NovoLog FlexPen or NovoLog FlexTouch and store without a needle attached.

The storage conditions are summarized in the following table:

**Storage Conditions for vial, PenFill cartridges, NovoLog FlexPen, and NovoLog FlexTouch**

NOVOLOG presentation	Not in-use (unopened) Room Temperature (up to 30°C [86°F])	Not in-use (unopened) Refrigerated (2°C to 8°C [36°F to 46°F])	In-use (opened) Room Temperature (up to 30°C [86°F])
10 mL multiple-dose vial	28 days	Until expiration date	28 days* (refrigerated/room temperature)
3 mL single-patient-use PenFill cartridges	28 days	Until expiration date	28 days (Do not refrigerate)
3 mL single-patient-use FlexPen	28 days	Until expiration date	28 days (Do not refrigerate)
3 mL single-patient-use FlexTouch	28 days	Until expiration date	28 days (Do not refrigerate)

\*For insulin pump use, the total in-use time is 19 days, including 7 days pump in-use time.

### Storage in External Insulin Pump:

Change the Novolog in the pump reservoir at least every 7 days or according to the pump user manual, whichever is shorter, or after exposure to temperatures that exceed 37°C (98.6°F).

## Company

**Manufactured by:** Novo Nordisk Inc., 800 Scudders Mill Road, Plainsboro, NJ 08536

## Novolog Biosimilars

Biosimilar and interchangeable products are biological products that are highly similar to and have no clinically meaningful differences from the reference product.

### Reference products

These are biological products that have already been approved by the FDA, against which biosimilar products are compared. There is 1 for Novolog.

#### Fiasp (insulin aspart) - Novo Nordisk Inc.



Formulation type	Strength
Autoinjector	300 units/3 mL (100 units/mL)
Multi-Dose Cartridge	160 units/1.6 mL (100 units/mL)
Multi-Dose Cartridge	300 units/3 mL (100 units/mL)
Multi-Dose Vial	1000 units/10 mL (100 units/mL)

View [Fiasp](#) information in detail.

## biosimilar products



Biosimilar products can only be dispensed in place of the **reference product** if the healthcare provider specifically prescribes the biosimilar product by name.

Pharmacy laws for biosimilar prescribing may vary by state

Merilog (insulin aspart-szjj) - Sanofi-Aventis U.S. LLC



## Popular FAQ

Is Admelog the same as NovoLog?



How and where should I inject insulin?



## More FAQ

- [What biosimilars have been approved in the United States?](#)
- [Humalog vs Novolog \(Novalog\): What's the difference?](#)
- [What is the difference between Novolin 70/30 and Novolog mix 70/30?](#)
- [What is the difference between Fiasp and NovoLog?](#)
- [What are the ingredient drugs in Ryzodeg 70/30?](#)

[View more FAQ...](#)

## References

1. [Novolog Product Label](#)

## More about Novolog (insulin aspart)

- [Check interactions](#)
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## Patient resources

### Other brands

[Fiasp](#)

## Professional resources

- [Novolog Injection prescribing information](#)
- [Insulin Aspart \(AHFS Monograph\)](#)

### Other brands

[Fiasp](#), [Merilog](#)

## Other formulations

- [NovoLog FlexPen](#)

## Related treatment guides

- [Type 2 Diabetes](#)
- [Diabetes, Type 1](#)
- [Diabetic Ketoacidosis](#)
- [Nonketotic Hyperosmolar Syndrome](#)

## Further information

Remember, keep this and all other medicines out of the reach of children, never share your medicines with others, and use NovoLog only for the indication prescribed.

Always consult your healthcare provider to ensure the information displayed on this page applies to your personal circumstances.

[Medical Disclaimer](#)

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### DRUG STATUS

#### Availability

**Rx** Prescription only

#### [Pregnancy & Lactation](#)

 Risk data available

#### CSA Schedule\*

**N/A** Not a controlled drug



## User Reviews & Ratings

5.5 / 10

[32 Reviews](#)

## Related News

[FDA Approves Merilog \(insulin-aspart-szjj\), a Biosimilar to NovoLog](#)

## Images

[Novolog U-100 \(100 units/mL\) injection](#)



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