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2. Insulin lispro

# Insulin lispro

**Generic name:** insulin lispro [ *IN-soo-lin-LISS-pro* ]

**Brand names:** [Admelog](#), [HumaLOG](#), [Lyumjev](#)

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

Medically reviewed by [Philip Thornton, DipPharm](#). Last updated on Sep 17, 2024.

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## What is insulin lispro?

[Insulin Lispro](#) is a hormone that works by lowering levels of glucose (sugar) in the blood. Insulin lispro 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 lispro is used to improve blood sugar control in adults and children with [diabetes mellitus](#).

Admelog and HumaLOG are used to treat [type 2 diabetes](#) in adults, or [type 1 diabetes](#) in adults and children who are at least 3 years old.

Lyumjev is not approved for use by anyone younger than 18 years old.

## Warnings

**Do not share your Insulin lispro with another person. This includes any pens, cartridge devices, needles, or syringes, even if the needle has been changed. Sharing may pass infections from one person to another. This includes infections you may not know you have.**

Low blood sugar may happen with insulin lispro. Very low blood sugar can lead to seizures, passing out, long lasting brain damage, and sometimes death.

Low blood potassium may also happen with insulin lispro. If not treated, this can lead to a heartbeat that is not normal, very bad breathing problems, and sometimes death.

It may be harder to control blood sugar during times of stress such as fever, infection, injury, or surgery. A change in physical activity, exercise, or diet may also affect blood sugar.

Do not drive if your blood sugar has been low. There is a greater chance of you having a crash.

Talk with your doctor before you drink alcohol or take products that have alcohol in them.

## Before taking this medicine

You should not use insulin lispro if you are allergic to it, or if you are having an episode of [hypoglycemia](#) (low blood sugar).

Insulin lispro should not be given to a child younger than 3 years old. Insulin lispro should not be used to treat type 2 diabetes in a child of any age.

To make sure Insulin lispro is safe for you, tell your doctor if you have ever had:

- liver or kidney disease;
- heart problems; or
- low levels of potassium in your blood ([hypokalemia](#)).

Tell your doctor if you also take medicine that contains [pioglitazone](#) or [rosiglitazone](#). Taking certain oral diabetes medicines while you are using insulin lispro 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 lispro **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.

 [Insulin lispro pregnancy and breastfeeding warnings](#) (more detail)

## How should I use insulin lispro?

Use Insulin lispro exactly as prescribed by your doctor. Follow all directions on your prescription label and read all medication guides or instruction sheets.

Insulin lispro is injected under the skin with a syringe and needle, an injection pen, or with an infusion pump. A healthcare provider will teach you how to properly use insulin lispro by yourself.

Read and carefully follow any Instructions for Use provided with your medicine. Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you do not understand these instructions.

Prepare your injection only when you are ready to give it. Do not use if the medicine looks cloudy, has changed colors or has particles in it. Call your pharmacist for new medicine.

**Admelog** or **HumaLOG** are given within 15 minutes before a meal, or right after eating. **Lyumjev** is given at the start of a meal or within 20 minutes after eating.

Your healthcare provider will show you where on your body to inject insulin lispro. 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 into skin that is damaged, tender, bruised, pitted, thickened, scaly, or has a scar or hard lump.

Concentrated insulin lispro (200 units) must not be given with an insulin pump, or mixed with other insulins. Do not transfer insulin lispro from an injection pen to a syringe or a severe overdose could occur.

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.

You may have low blood sugar (**hypoglycemia**) and feel very hungry, dizzy, irritable, confused, anxious, or shaky. To quickly treat hypoglycemia, eat or drink a fast-acting source of sugar (fruit juice, hard candy, crackers, raisins, or non-diet soda).

Your doctor may prescribe a [glucagon](#) injection kit in case you have severe hypoglycemia. Be sure your family or 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.

Blood sugar levels can be affected by [stress](#), illness, surgery, exercise, alcohol use, or skipping meals. **Ask your doctor before changing your dose or medication schedule.**

Keep insulin lispro in its original container protected from heat and light. Do not freeze insulin lispro or store it near the cooling element in a refrigerator. **Throw away any insulin lispro that has been frozen.**

Storing unopened (not in use) insulin lispro:

- Refrigerate and use until [expiration date](#); or
- Store at room temperature and use within 28 days.

Storing opened (in use) insulin lispro:

- Store the vial in a refrigerator or at room temperature and use within 28 days.
- Store the cartridge or injection pen (without a needle attached) at room temperature and use within 28 days.

Use a needle and syringe only once and 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.

 [Detailed Insulin lispro dosage information](#)

## What happens if I miss a dose?

Since insulin lispro is used with meals, you may not be on a timed dosing schedule. Whenever you use insulin lispro, follow the directions for your specific brand about whether to use the medicine before or after you eat. Do not use two doses at one time.

## 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 insulin lispro?

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

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

Avoid drinking alcohol.

# Insulin lispro side effects

Get emergency medical help if you have **signs of insulin allergy**: 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:

- weight gain, swelling in your hands or feet, feeling short of breath;
- **low blood sugar** - [headache](#), hunger, sweating, irritability, [dizziness](#), [fast heart rate](#), and feeling anxious or shaky; 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 Insulin lispro side effects may include:

- low blood sugar;
- weight gain;
- swelling in your hands or feet;
- itching; 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.

 [Insulin lispro side effects](#) (more detail)

## Related/similar drugs

### Ozempic

Learn about Ozempic (semaglutide) for type 2 diabetes treatment, weight management, cardiovascular ...

#### Reviews & ratings

6.6 / 10

[1,504 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

### Rybelsus

Rybelsus tablets are used to improve blood sugar control in adults with type 2 diabetes, and may ...

#### Reviews & ratings

6.4 / 10

[282 Reviews](#)

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#### FEATURED

### Mounjaro

Mounjaro (tirzepatide) is FDA-approved to manage type 2 diabetes in adults. It lowers blood sugar ...

#### Reviews & ratings

8.5 / 10

[1,278 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

### Trulicity

Trulicity is an injectable diabetes medicine that is used together with diet and exercise to ...

#### Reviews & ratings

5.3 / 10

[970 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

### Lantus

Lantus is a long acting form of insulin used to treat type 1 or type 2 diabetes. Learn about side ...

#### Reviews & ratings

6.5 / 10

[41 Reviews](#)

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### Tresiba

Tresiba (insulin degludec) is used to treat diabetes mellitus. Includes Tresiba side effects ...

#### Reviews & ratings

4.3 / 10

[152 Reviews](#)

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## **Victoza**

Victoza helps control blood sugar levels and reduce the risk of serious heart problems in people ...

### **Reviews & ratings**

7.6 / 10

[766 Reviews](#)

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## **Humalog**

Humalog (insulin lispro) is used to treat type 1 (insulin-dependent) diabetes in adults. Includes ...

### **Reviews & ratings**

6.8 / 10

[22 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

## **Basaglar**

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

### **Reviews & ratings**

2.7 / 10

[148 Reviews](#)

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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

[70 Reviews](#)

[View more](#)

## What other drugs will affect insulin lispro?

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](#).

 [Insulin lispro drug interactions](#) (more detail)

## Does insulin lispro interact with my other drugs?

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

+

Add

## Insulin lispro 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 are 3 for insulin lispro.

#### Admelog (insulin lispro) - Sanofi-Aventis U.S. LLC



Formulation type	Strength
Autoinjector	300 units/3 mL (100 units/mL)
Multi-Dose Vial	1,000 units/10 mL (100 units/mL)
Multi-Dose Vial	300 units/3 mL (100 units/mL)

View [Admelog](#) information in detail.

#### Humalog (insulin lispro) - Eli Lilly and Company



#### Lyumjev (insulin lispro-aabc) - Eli Lilly and Company



## Popular FAQ

How and where should I inject insulin?



Can Trulicity be used with insulin?



What are the different types of insulin?



When does insulin lispro peak / how long does it last?



What type of insulin is Humalog?



How fast does insulin lispro work?



Is Admelog fast-acting insulin?



Does Admelog need to be refrigerated?



## More FAQ

- [What is the difference between regular insulin and lispro \(Humalog\)?](#)

[View more FAQ...](#)

## More about insulin lispro

- [Check interactions](#)
- [Compare alternatives](#)
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- [Dosage information](#)
- [Patient tips](#)
- [During pregnancy](#)
- [Support group](#)
- [Drug class: insulin](#)
- [En español](#)

## Patient resources

- [Insulin lispro-aabc advanced reading](#)

## Other brands

[Humalog](#), [Admelog](#), [Lyumjev](#)



## Professional resources

- [Insulin Lispro monograph](#)
- [Insulin Lispro \(FDA\)](#)
- [Insulin Lispro Mix 75/25 Kwikpen \(FDA\)](#)

## Other brands

[Humalog](#), [Admelog](#), [Lyumjev](#)

## 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 Insulin lispro 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

<b>Availability</b>		
<b>Rx</b>	Prescription only	
<b>Pregnancy &amp; Lactation</b>		
	Risk data available	
<b>CSA Schedule*</b>		
<b>N/A</b>	Not a controlled drug	▼
<b>Approval History</b>		
	Drug history at FDA	▼

## User Reviews & Ratings

4.1 / 10

[96 Reviews](#)

## Images

## Humalog (insulin lispro) U-100 (100 units/mL) injection



[View larger images](#)

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