

Postpartum 2-Hour Glucose Tolerance Test

What is the 2-hour glucose tolerance test?

This is a screening test for Diabetes Mellitus. This test is completed at 6-12 weeks postpartum.

Why do I need the 2-hour glucose tolerance test?

Women diagnosed with Gestational Diabetes (GDM) during pregnancy are at an increased risk for developing **Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus** after pregnancy. Postpartum screening of women with GDM provides early detection of women with ongoing blood sugar abnormalities which allows for timely intervention and care planning.

Type 2 Diabetes
Mellitus – a condition
in which your body
does not use insulin
properly.

How do I complete this test?

- → Eat and drink as you usually do in the days leading up to taking this test.
- → **Do not eat or drink for 8 hours before the test.** You may have small sips of water only. It is easiest to fast overnight and complete the test early in the morning.
- → Go to one of the Michigan Medicine MLab locations. Scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to see a list of MLab locations. You do not need an appointment.



- → When you arrive, your blood will be drawn to measure your fasting blood sugar.
- → You will be given a sugary drink (glucose drink) by the lab. Drink the whole bottle of glucose in 5 minutes or less.
- → Your blood will be drawn at 2 hours after your drink.

→ Do not eat, smoke, or exercise until after the last blood draw. Bring a snack to eat before you drive you home.

What do my results mean?

Screening	Normal	Pre-diabetes	Diabetes
results			
Fasting blood	Less than 100	100-125 mg/dl	126 mg/dl or
sugar	mg/dl		greater
2-hour blood	Less than 140	140-199 mg/dl	200 mg/dl or
sugar	mg/dl		greater

If you have an abnormal result, you will be referred to your Primary Care Provider for follow up and management.

Disclaimer: This document contains information and/or instructional materials developed by Michigan Medicine for the typical patient with your condition. It may include links to online content that was not created by Michigan Medicine and for which Michigan Medicine does not assume responsibility. It does not replace medical advice from your health care provider because your experience may differ from that of the typical patient. Talk to your health care provider if you have any questions about this document, your condition or your treatment plan.

Author: Julie Kramb, RN Reviewers: Mark Chames, MD and Joanne Bailey, CNM Plain language review: Karelyn Munro

Patient Education by <u>Michigan Medicine</u> is licensed under a <u>Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International Public License</u>. Last Revised 12/2022