

An Important Notice for Adult Ontarians Living with Diabetes

Living with diabetes is not easy, but managing it day-to-day really means taking good care of yourself.

There are three key tests that people living with diabetes should receive on a regular basis. They are:

- the **HbA1C blood glucose control test**, which patients should receive at least every six months
- the **LDL-C cholesterol test**, which patients should receive every year
- a **retinal eye exam**, which patients should receive every two years

The Diabetes Testing Report was created to help inform your primary care provider (physician or nurse practitioner in a Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinic) of when you last had each of these three tests.

People living with diabetes who are tested regularly are better able to manage their diabetes and avoid complications. The Diabetes Testing Report will help you and your primary care provider better manage your diabetes care by reminding him or her if you are overdue for an HbA1C test, LDL-C test or retinal eye exam, and it will encourage you and your primary care provider to talk about your diabetes care.

Protecting Your Privacy

In order to create the Diabetes Testing Report, your primary care provider may share personal health information, including your name, OHIP number, and date of birth, with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC). He or she will also confirm whether you have diabetes. In response, the MOHLTC will share the most recent dates of each of the three tests with your provider. Your privacy is important, and you are not required to have your information included in this report.

Deciding Not to Share Your Information

You may decide that you do not want your primary care provider to disclose your information to the MOHLTC, and that you do not wish to be included in your provider's Diabetes Testing Reports. If you choose to withhold or withdraw your consent, this will in no way affect your relationship with your health care provider and he or she will continue to provide care to you.

If you wish to withhold or withdraw your consent to having your information disclosed by your primary care provider and in any Diabetes Testing Reports that MOHLTC sends to your primary care provider, call **1-800-291-1405 (TTY: 1-800-387-5559)**. If you have previously withheld or withdrawn your consent to have your information included on the Diabetes Testing Report, you do not need to withhold or withdraw your consent again. If you wish to reinstate your consent, you can do so by calling the number above.

In Ontario, the Personal Health Information Protection Act, 2004 (PHIPA) is the legislation that governs the collection, use, retention, and disclosure of personal health information by health information custodians, including MOHLTC and primary care providers. For more information about the collection, use, and disclosure of your personal health information for the purposes of the Diabetes Testing Report, call the numbers listed above. For more information about diabetes, visit ontario.ca/diabetes.