

DIABETES: ACUTE COMPLICATIONS OTHER ACUTE COMPLICATIONS

Besides hypoglycaemia, there are other acute complications of diabetes which are more serious and require urgent medical attention. Such imbalances reveal themselves in different ways.

These complications can appear in people whose diabetes began before they were thirty and who have needed insulin since the beginning. They manifest themselves in the following symptoms:

- Dry, hot skin (the skin is dehydrated).
- Rapid, deep breathing.
- Disorientation and drowsiness.
- Smell of apple.
- Nausea and vomiting.
- Pain in the abdomen.
- Capillary glucose (pin-prick test blood sugar level) over 300 mg/dl.

Such complications are also found in diabetics diagnosed after the age of 30-40, many of whom are obese, especially those over 50. Sometimes they are found in people who have not yet been diagnosed as diabetic, associated with an illness that triggers it. The symptoms observed in such people are:

- Extremely dry skin (it is very dehydrated).
- Extremely high capillary glucose (the appliance cannot give an exact reading and no numbers are displayed on the screen, just the word HIGH - in English).
- Disorientation and sometimes loss of consciousness.

Both sets of symptoms give the impression of being serious and lead one to call for urgent medical assistance.

