

MEDLAB: DIABETES

KEY CONCEPTS

Review with your students before your visit. Students should be familiar with basic lab techniques such as using a microscope and following written lab procedures.

VITAL SIGNS

Clinical measurements that indicate the state of a patient's essential bodily functions.

HOMEOSTASIS

Living things must maintain a narrow range of internal conditions in order to function efficiently and stay healthy.

PULSE

Also known as heart rate. The number of times that heart beats in one minute.

RESPIRATORY RATE

The number of breaths taken in one minute.

BLOOD PRESSURE

(Arterial blood pressure) The pressure within the blood vessels exerted by heart pumping to circulate blood.

OXYGEN SATURATION

A measure of the amount of oxygen carried by the red blood cells in the blood. Measured as a percentage.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

Diagnosing an illness via process of elimination. Illnesses with similar symptoms are discounted through physical and laboratory tests.

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DIABETES

A disease characterized by the body's inability to properly balance and regulate blood sugar levels.

INSULIN

A hormone secreted by the pancreas that plays a key role in the regulation of blood sugar levels.