

This Portrait shows your ordering of hemoglobin A1C (HbA1c) tests in patients with diabetes<sup>1</sup>, in 2024. The **figures only show HbA1c tests ordered by you** and do not include tests ordered by other prescribers.

The effect of any change in diet, behaviour, or medications will not be reflected in a person's HbA1c for at least 3 months. For people with type 2 diabetes whose treatment and blood glucose are stable, less frequent HbA1c testing (e.g., every 6 months) is appropriate.<sup>2</sup>

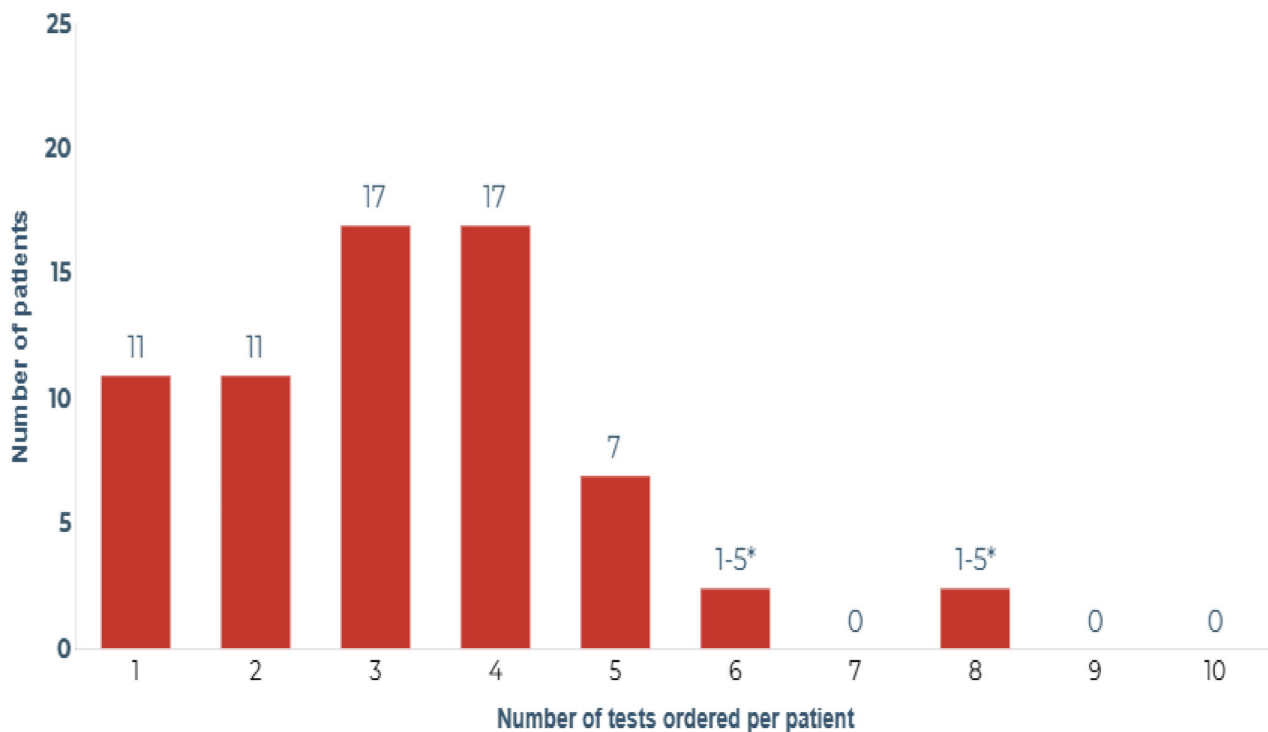
**Wait at least 3 months to check HbA1c after a previous result.**

Number of HbA1c tests **ordered by you** less than 90 days (3 months) after **you ordered** a previous HbA1c test in 2024



**If a person's treatment and lifestyle have been stable and glycemic goals are met, check HbA1c no more than every 6 months.**

Number of HbA1c tests per patient ordered by you in 12 months following the first HbA1c test performed in 2024<sup>3</sup>



\* Precise numbers are concealed to protect privacy (due to small numbers).

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**PLEASE NOTE:** The accuracy of your prescribing Portrait is dependent on the completeness of patient visit data and precision of diagnostic coding.

## REFERENCES

<sup>1</sup> Predominantly patients with type 2 diabetes.

<sup>2</sup> Therapeutics Initiative. Appropriate hemoglobin A1c testing frequency to monitor patients with type 2 diabetes. *Therapeutics Letter*. 2026 (March-April); 161:1-2

<sup>3</sup> The 12-month period following the first HbA1c test performed in 2024.

## DATA & DEFINITIONS

**Patients included:** Patients were BC residents diagnosed with diabetes (predominantly type 2) who were 18 years and older at the time of the first HbA1c test ordered by you and recorded in BC Provincial Laboratory Information Solution (PLIS) database between January 1, 2024 and December 31, 2024.

**Clinicians included:** Family physicians and nurse practitioners (NP) registered by MSP as an active practice in BC, or physicians registered primarily as GP-emergency medicine and FP-emergency medicine physicians who had  $\geq 100$  prescriptions (for any drug) filled at a community pharmacy in 2024, according to PharmaCare and PharmaNet claims data.

**Diagnostic tests included:** HbA1c tests were those ordered by you and recorded in BC Provincial Laboratory Information Solution (PLIS) database during the study period. **The figures only show HbA1c tests ordered by you and do not include tests ordered by other prescribers.**

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**FOR DETAILED DEFINITIONS AND REFERENCES SEE: [WWW.TI.UBC.CA/PORTRAIT-A1C](http://WWW.TI.UBC.CA/PORTRAIT-A1C)**

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