

# Does your child have diabetes?

November 16 2020, by Mayo Clinic News Network

---



Credit: CC0 Public Domain

More than 34 million Americans are living with diabetes. And many of them are children and adolescents. Cases of Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes are on the rise among those 20 and under in the U.S., according to a study earlier this year by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In this Mayo Clinic Minute, Dr. Ana Creo, a Mayo Clinic pediatric endocrinologist, explains what signs and symptoms parents should be aware of.

Diabetes is one of the most common chronic diseases among children and teens.

"Right now there are more children with Type 1 versus Type 2, but the rates of both are on the rise," says Dr. Creo. "In general, obesity is increasing in children, so that's certainly one part of Type 2. (As for) Type 1, in general, [autoimmune diseases](#) are increasing in kids."

Young people who develop diabetes are at a higher risk of health challenges throughout their lives. Being able to recognize the signs and symptoms of the disease can help get an earlier diagnosis and ultimately a chance of a better outcome. Dr. Creo explains what parents should be looking for as far as symptoms:

"If I were to pick two (symptoms) that are more concerning for diabetes, it would be using the bathroom more and (being) really, really thirsty. Sometimes kids can also lose weight, as they're not able to store what they're eating in their body anymore without insulin. So [weight loss](#) can be another feature," says Dr. Creo.

Symptoms of Type 1 diabetes tend to develop rapidly in [young people](#); whereas, Type 2 [diabetes](#) symptoms develop overtime.

©2020 Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research  
Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC

Citation: Does your child have diabetes? (2020, November 16) retrieved 27 July 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-11-child-diabetes.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.