

Table 3.1 – Components of the comprehensive diabetes medical evaluation at initial and follow-up visits

		INITIAL VISIT	EVERY FOLLOW-UP VISIT	ANNUAL VISIT
PHYSICAL EXAMINATION	▪ Height, weight, and BMI; growth/pubertal development in children and adolescents	✓	✓	✓
	▪ Blood pressure determination	✓	✓	✓
	▪ Orthostatic blood pressure measures (when indicated)	✓		
	▪ Fundoscopic examination (refer to eye specialist)	✓		✓
	▪ Thyroid palpation	✓		✓
	▪ Skin examination (e.g., acanthosis nigricans, insulin injection or insertion sites, lipodystrophy)	✓	✓	✓
	▪ Comprehensive foot examination			
	• Visual inspection (e.g., skin integrity, callous formation, foot deformity or ulcer, toenails)	✓	✓	✓
	• Screen for PAD (pedal pulses; refer for ABI if diminished)	✓		✓
	• Determination of temperature, vibration or pinprick sensation, and 10-g monofilament exam	✓		✓
LABORATORY EVALUATION	▪ A1C, if the results are not available within the past 3 months	✓	✓	✓
	▪ If not performed/available within the past year			
	• Lipid profile, including total, LDL, and HDL cholesterol and triglycerides [#]	✓		✓ [^]
	• Liver function tests [#]	✓		✓
	• Spot urinary albumin-to-creatinine ratio	✓		✓
	• Serum creatinine and estimated glomerular filtration rate [†]	✓		✓
	• Thyroid-stimulating hormone in patients with type 1 diabetes [#]	✓		✓
	• Vitamin B12 if on metformin (when indicated)	✓		
• Serum potassium levels in patients on ACE inhibitors, ARBs, or diuretics [†]	✓		✓	
ASSESSMENT AND PLAN	Goal setting			
	▪ Set A1C/blood glucose target and monitoring frequency	✓	✓	✓
	▪ If hypertension diagnosed, establish blood pressure goal	✓		✓
	▪ Incorporate new members to the care team as needed	✓	✓	✓
	▪ Diabetes education and self-management support needs	✓	✓	✓
	Cardiovascular risk assessment and staging of CKD			
	▪ History of ASCVD	✓	✓	✓
	▪ Presence of ASCVD risk factors (see Table 9.2)	✓	✓	✓
	▪ Staging of CKD (see Table 10.1) [†]	✓	✓	✓
	Therapeutic treatment plan			
	▪ Lifestyle management	✓	✓	✓
	▪ Pharmacologic therapy	✓	✓	✓
▪ Referrals to specialists (including dietitian and diabetes educator) as needed	✓	✓	✓	
▪ Use of glucose monitoring and insulin delivery devices	✓	✓	✓	

ABI, ankle-brachial pressure index; ARBs, angiotensin receptor blockers; ASCVD, atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease; CGM, continuous glucose monitoring; CKD, chronic kidney disease; PAD, peripheral arterial disease.

*≥65 years;

[†]may be needed more frequently in patients with known chronic kidney disease or with changes in medications that affect kidney function and serum potassium (see Table 10.2);

[#]may also need to be checked after initiation or dose changes of medications that affect these laboratory values (i.e., diabetes medications, blood pressure medications, cholesterol medications, or thyroid medications);

[^]in people without dyslipidemia and not on cholesterol-lowering therapy, testing may be less frequent.