Mayo Clinic Minute

Get the Facts on Type 2 Diabetes

Audio

Vivien Williams	Type 2 diabetes is on the rise.
Adrian Vella, M.D. Endocrinology Mayo Clinic	"The increased incidence of obesity is what has probably driven part of the increase in diabetes."
Vivien Williams	Mayo Clinic endocrinologist Dr. Adrian Vella says diabetes happens when your blood sugar is too high. It's a leading cause of blindness and amputations, and it increases your risk of heart disease and kidney failure.
Adrian Vella, M.D.	"Dealing with high blood sugars early gives you a better chance of spending a longer time not requiring medications or other interventions to control your diabetes."
Vivien Williams	Dr. Vella says some people develop Type 2 diabetes even if they're not overweight. But, for others, lifestyle choices, such as eating right, exercising and losing weight, can help prevent and even manage the chronic condition. But, unhealthy choices can be dangerous, especially if you have a predisposition for the disease.
Adrian Vella, M.D.	"One of my more famous colleagues actually said that heredity loads the gun, while environment pulls the trigger."
Vivien Williams	The good news is treatment with lifestyle changes, medication or even insulin can help control diabetes and prevent complications. For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Vivien Williams