

Although they have a common name, [diabetes mellitus](#) and [diabetes insipidus](#) are two entirely separate conditions with unrelated mechanisms. Both cause large amounts of [urine](#) to be produced ([polyuria](#)), and the term “[diabetes](#)” is derived from the Greek word meaning siphon. However, diabetes insipidus is either a problem with the production of [antidiuretic hormone](#) ([central diabetes insipidus](#)) or kidney's response to antidiuretic hormone (nephrogenic diabetes insipidus), whereas [diabetes mellitus](#) causes [polyuria](#) via a process called osmotic [diuresis](#), due to the high blood sugar leaking into the urine and taking excess water along with it.

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Last update: **2024/06/07 02:57**

