


Diabetes Department

Patient Information



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Information

If you need this information in large print, easy read, on audiotape or in another language please call 0800 7838058 or e-mail pals@dchft.nhs.uk

If you wish to obtain a list of the sources used to develop this information leaflet please call 0800 7838058 or e-mail patient.info@dchft.nhs.uk

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Hospital admission for people on insulin pump therapy

If you are admitted to hospital as an emergency for high blood sugars:

- If admitted with high blood sugars, the team looking after you will commence an intravenous insulin infusion or drip as soon as possible. You will be asked to disconnect your insulin pump. If this is not possible the pump will be disconnected for you.
- Please give your Insulin pump to a relative/friend to take home for safe keeping or it can be secured in a bedside POD locker.
- Once you are feeling better and able to eat, drink and manage your insulin pump, you will be asked to re-start your pump.
- Doctors have been advised that the insulin drip must overlap with your pump for ONE HOUR.

IMPORTANT: The insulin drip must not be stopped without restarting your insulin pump, with an overlap of ONE HOUR.

If you are admitted to hospital as an emergency unrelated to diabetes:

- If your blood sugars remain controlled, you are able to eat and drink and manage your insulin pump, **then** your pump may be continued.

If you are admitted for planned surgery:

- Ensure as far in advance as possible that you liaise with the diabetes centre prior to admission.
- If you require a local anaesthetic or sedation, continue with your insulin pump.

- If you require general anaesthesia you will need an intravenous insulin infusion or drip, therefore you will be asked to disconnect your pump.

Other circumstances when the insulin pump needs to be removed:

- Magnetic Resonance Tomography (MRI scan)
- X-ray
- Computer Tomography

If the insulin pump is stopped for longer than one hour, you can either bolus with an insulin pen device or an intravenous insulin infusion, or a drip will need to be commenced.

Essential practice and checks for insulin pump therapy:

- Test blood sugars - minimum 4 times a day
- Check pump and infusion set twice a day
- Change cannula and infusion sets at appropriate intervals
- Remember to rotate the site of injection
- Wash your hands when handling the cannula
- Carry an emergency kit with you
- Dispose of sharps safely in a sharps bin
- Check ketones if blood sugar >14mmol/L
- Double the correction dose if ketones are present
- Use pen / syringe if blood sugar remains >14mmol/L after first correction
- Check the pump and infusion set if the blood sugar is unexpectedly high or low
- Treat hypo <4mmol/L but keep basal rate running unless severe hypo

Only disconnect the insulin pump for up to ONE HOUR

Further Information

Ahead of planned surgery or following emergency admission to hospital contact the Diabetes Specialist Nurses as soon as possible.

Call **01305 255342**
From 8am-5pm 7 days a week