# Assess the suitability of insulin pump therapy for an individual with Type 1 diabetes



#### **Overview**

This standard covers the activities associated with assessing the suitability of insulin pump therapy for individuals with Type 1diabetes. This standard may follow from a regular review of the health of an individual with diabetes. Currently, insulin pump therapy is an option available in a few specialist centres and is a treatment that should be initiated only by a trained specialist team.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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### Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 review the recent medical history of an individual referred for insulin pump therapy against established national criteria for this treatment and any locally determined requirements
- P2 notify the individual if you judge the treatment unsuitable and offer a consultation to discuss your assessment and to advise on any action in preparation for a subsequent re-assessment of the suitability of insulin pump therapy
- P3 subject to satisfying the treatment criteria, arrange to see the individual, and where appropriate a carer, to discuss insulin pump therapy and to assess the individual's capacity for training
- P4 during the consultation:
  - P4.1 provide general information about the nature, benefits and risks of insulin pump therapy
  - P4.2 explain what the individual will need to do in order for the treatment to be successful
  - P4.3 establish whether the individual has a good record of contact with the diabetes team and review their history of self-care
  - P4.4 make an assessment of the individual's commitment, motivation and capacity to manage pump therapy
- P5 in discussion with the individual, explain your assessment of the suitability of the treatment for them and, if you believe that the treatment is suitable, jointly decide whether and when to proceed
- P6 if you jointly decide to proceed, arrange for the individual and carer to attend an education or training session
- P7 if you assess that the treatment is unsuitable for the individual, discuss alternative options for the individual and, if appropriate, refer them to another member of the healthcare team to discuss these options
- P8 make an accurate record of the outcome of your assessment and the decision to proceed, or not to proceed, that can be followed by other members of the healthcare team, the individual and carer

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## Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 national guidelines on diabetes management, education and service delivery
- K2 national and local guidelines for continuous subcutaneous insulin infusion
- K3 theories of the causes of diabetes
- K4 signs and symptoms of diabetes, including WHO criteria for diagnosis
- K5 normal and abnormal blood glucose and HbA1c values
- K6 how to monitor glucose levels, HbA1c, blood pressure
- K7 the importance and effects of patient education and self management
- K8 the psychological impact of diabetes, at diagnosis and in the long term
- K9 the psychology of teaching and learning and of behavioural change
- K10 how to work in partnership with patients and carers
- K11 the social, cultural and economic background of the patient/carer group
- K12 the impact of nutrition and physical activity on diabetes
- K13 the carbohydrate content of foods
- K14 the effects of smoking, alcohol and illicit drugs
- K15 the effects of, and how to manage, intercurrent illness or surgery
- K16 how to avoid and how to manage hypoglycaemia and hyperglycaemia
- K17 the medications used to manage diabetes
- K18 continuous subcutaneous insulin infusion pumps and their operation
- K19 the current theories for calculating insulin to carbohydrate ratios, insulin sensitivity and basal insulin doses
- K20 the long term complications of diabetes and when they are likely to occur
- K21 how to examine feet and assess risk status
- K22 how to monitor cardiovascular risk
- K23 how to monitor for renal disease
- K24 how to monitor for diabetic retinopathy
- K25 the law and good practice guidelines on consent
- K26 your role in the healthcare team and the role of others
- K27 local guidelines on diabetes healthcare
- K28 local referral pathways
- K29 local systems for recording patient information
- K30 quality assurance systems
- K31 the process of notification for legal and insurance purposes
- K32 sources of practitioner and patient information on diabetes
- K33 contact details of local and national support groups
- K34 how individuals can access local facilities for exercise and physical activity, education and community activities

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#### **Additional Information**

**External Links** 

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB6 Assessment and treatment planning

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