Provide preliminary education about insulin pump therapy for an individual with Type 1 diabetes



Overview

This standard concerns the activities associated with helping the individual to understand insulin pump therapy. It is linked to dietary education and precedes detailed training and treatment initiation. 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 arrange an initial education session on an individual or group basis and invite the individual, and where appropriate a carer, to attend
- P2 communicate with the individual and carer throughout in a way that fully involves them in discussing how to manage the individual's diabetes
- P3 during the education session provide information about the pumps available and demonstrate the common and unique features of each
- P4 explain the type of insulin used, how the pump reservoir is filled, how the infusion set is attached to the pump, where the needle or cannula can be sited and how and where the pump can be carried
- P5 in general terms, explain how the pump is programmed to deliver a basal rate and a bolus of insulin, and how this relates to diurnal variations, physical activity and diet, particularly carbohydrate content
- P6 explain the limitations and risks of using an insulin pump
- P7 in discussion with the individual, and where appropriate the carer, jointly review the decision to commence insulin pump therapy and confirm whether or not to proceed, or arrange for the individual to have this discussion with an appropriate member if the healthcare team
- 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

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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 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: HWB4 Enablement to address health and well being needs

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