



Pump therapy for planned admission for surgery, investigative and therapeutic procedures, antenatal care or management of labour

Advice for people on insulin pump therapy who are coming into hospital.

- **Inform the doctor and the nursing staff about your insulin pump therapy beforehand: take this leaflet with you.**
- You may be able to continue using your pump during your hospital stay if this is agreed with the staff treating you but you may be asked to switch to an intravenous insulin sliding scale infusion instead.
- If you are required to switch to an intravenous insulin sliding scale infusion, keep your pump running until the sliding scale infusion has been started and make sure that your blood glucose levels are monitored hourly.
- When you have recovered from the anaesthetic sufficiently to be able to manipulate the pump appropriately (which may be up to 24 hours after the procedure), you may be able to restart your pump **but the ward staff must be made aware** that the intravenous insulin sliding scale infusion should continue for another one hour after your pump has been restarted.
- You must ensure that your blood glucose levels are monitored hourly as long as the pump and the intravenous sliding scale are running together.
- If your blood glucose drops below 4, the intravenous sliding scale infusion must be discontinued, but you can continue to use your pump as normal.
- **Discuss with the Diabetes Pump Therapy Team ahead of any planned admission date.**
- Remember to take with you all the necessary equipment (consumables) for your insulin pump therapy as this would not be available on a hospital ward. Also remember to take your emergency kitbag with insulin pens, hypo management equipment. **Certain examinations can interfere with the operation of the insulin pump:**
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI scans), X-rays and Computer Tomography (CT scans) can all interfere with the operation of your insulin pump. In these instances:
 - Inform the X-ray Department before the scan; ensure you have the necessary insulin supplies and equipment with you.
 - Remove the insulin pump and infusion set and store them safely outside the room before the procedure.
 - If the examination scan lasts less than an hour, restart your pump at the usual rate as soon as the scan is over.
 - If the examination lasts more than one hour, you will require an intravenous insulin sliding scale infusion.