

Dear colleagues and friends,

I hope this update finds you are all well.

Please find our latest update from the Diabetes UK North of England team below. As always please do pass on and circulate to anyone you think may benefit from this information.

Diabetes UK's exciting new partnership with the Steve Morgan Foundation and JRDF

On Monday 25 April, we announced that through this three-way partnership, the Steve Morgan Foundation will be investing £50 million into type 1 diabetes research predominantly in the UK. This extraordinary commitment signals the single largest donation to diabetes research in this country and Diabetes UK will play its part in ensuring these funds are used in the very best way, on the most promising research projects. [Biggest-ever philanthropic gift to diabetes research brings type 1 cure closer | Diabetes UK](#)

The **SMF Type 1 Diabetes Grand Challenge** will provide investment so the research community can work collaboratively to deliver global breakthroughs in three areas, led out of the UK:

- Treatments to replace or rescue insulin-making beta cells in the pancreas
- Treatments to stop the immune system's attack that destroys insulin-making beta cells
- Novel insulins, such as those that respond to changing blood sugar levels

Diabetes is Serious campaign event in Parliament

On Wednesday 20 April, the latest report for our [Diabetes is Serious 2022](#) campaign was launched in Parliament. We also hosted an art exhibition of work by people living with diabetes to show case and bring to life the emotions of living with such a relentless condition. We had a fantastic turnout of over 100 MPs, including two health ministers, a shadow health minister and several members of the Health Select Committee, including Jeremy Hunt. Our report includes the results from our survey of over 10,000 people living with diabetes and highlights the unequal impact of the pandemic on them. It showed that:

- Almost half (47%) had experienced difficulties managing their condition in 2021.
- Almost two thirds (63%) attributed this in part to not having sufficient access to their healthcare team. This rose to 71% in the most deprived areas of the country.
- One in six reported no contact with their healthcare team whatsoever about their diabetes since before the pandemic.

The survey also revealed stark health inequalities. It showed that people from the most deprived areas of the country were more likely to have experienced difficulties managing their diabetes, with 56% of people in the most deprived areas saying they had experienced problems compared to 44% in the least deprived.

We are planning to host a regional event in June and will circulate details on how to join nearer to the time.

The Tackling Inequalities in Diabetes Lab

Our current social innovation programme is a bottom-up, strategic response to improve outcomes for people with diabetes who experience inequalities in their diabetes care. We are now accepting expressions of interest to join the Lab in June 2022. We know that inequalities related to ethnicity and deprivation can lead to some of the poorest outcomes for people with diabetes. Furthermore, the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on inequalities are likely to be profound. This inequality in diabetes should not be inevitable. The Lab is an environment where the people involved in the system come together to develop and test responses to complex challenges. If you'd like to take part, please express your interest and sign up for an exploratory session. The exploratory session will allow you the chance to find out more about the Lab process, discover whether it's the right choice for you and share more about your area of work. Find out more here: [The Tackling Inequality in Diabetes Lab | Diabetes UK](#)

If you have any questions about the process or would like to be involved in the Lab in an alternative capacity, please email changelabs@diabetes.org.uk and one of our team would be happy to have a conversation with you.

Diabetes Myths in the South Asian Communities

Our colleagues in the South East team together with dietician Fareeha Jay are hosting a free, online event on Tuesday 3 May 2022 from 11:30am – 1pm . Registered dietitian Fareeha Jay provides tips for healthy swaps and more in for anyone who enjoys South Asian cooking be they people with diabetes, carers and healthcare professionals. [Busting Diabetes Myths in the South Asian Communities Tickets, Tue 3 May 2022 at 11:30 | Eventbrite](#)

Let them eat cake: Safety and Admission Avoidance for people with diabetes in care homes and domiciliary care

Our colleagues in the South East team are holding a special free online event on Thursday 12 May from 1pm – 2:30pm. Focusing on the main causes of hospital administration for people with diabetes in care homes/domiciliary care. They'll be looking at diet, hypoglycaemia, hyperglycaemia, foot care and more. [Let them eat cake, Thurs 12 May 2022 at 13:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Previous DUK webinars you may have missed:

- January 2022 - **Diabetes and Preparing for Pregnancy**, with Dr Bobby Huda from Barts Health [Available on YouTube](#)
- October 2021 - **Diabetes and Health Inequalities**, with Dr Louise Goff, King's College, and Mike Clark, Macmillan Cancer Support [Available on YouTube](#)
- October 2021 – **Type 1 and Tech Conference**, featuring talks from experts, healthcare professionals and people living with type 1 diabetes. [Available on YouTube](#)

One Million Step Challenge

One million steps, Three months, One life-changing challenge.

Our challenge is for everybody, and everybody. So this summer, take around 10,000 steps a day for three months. Steps to get fit. Steps to lose weight. And steps to raise life-changing funds for people affected by diabetes. Register online: [Step towards a healthier you this summer \(diabetes.org.uk\)](#)

As always please do get in touch if I can help or support.