

# Diabetes Update

## RSS Diabetes Service

Welcome to the June issue of Diabetes Update. This newsletter is designed to keep our partners in health up-to-date on diabetes related information, our activities and accomplishments.

We welcome your input to this publication and would be delighted to hear of any service improvement activities, community groups, staff achievements that you know of, or any new ideas you may have, to include.

## Diabetes Service patient and professional resources

### Website

The [Diabetes Service](#) website offers access to a rural directory of key diabetes service contacts, policies, guidelines and patient and professional education resources.

### Consumer factsheets and clinical resources

Education resources for people with diabetes that have been developed by the Diabetes Service are available on [Regional Health Hub Intranet](#) and our [Diabetes Service](#) website.

The following protocols and action plans have been updated. Click on the title to download.

1. [Type 1 diabetes overview - Part 1 & 2 - Dr Anthony Zimmerman \(Endocrinologist\) - Podcast](#)
2. [Overview of diabetes ketoacidosis and the regional LHN protocol - Dr Peak Mann Mah \(Endocrinologist\) - Podcast](#)
3. [Regional LHNs/Rural Support Service Diabetes - Nurse Practitioner Clinical Service - Work Instruction](#)

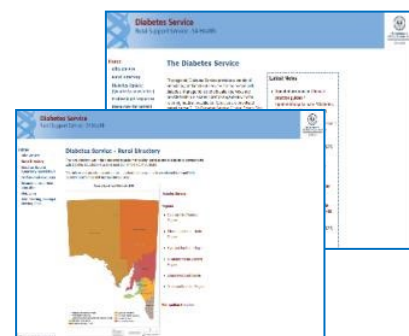
## General Information

### Regional Local Health Networks (LHN) Diabetes Educators Workshop

The regional LHN Diabetes Educators Workshop will be held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at the Education Development Centre, Hindmarsh. This workshop is a face to face event and is expected to be well attended by rural and remote Credentialed Diabetes Educators (CDE) and Diabetes Educators (DE).

The program offers presentations on the pathology at diagnosis and at annual review, service profiling and reporting, medication management and the safety learning system, carbohydrate identification and counting in the adult and paediatric settings, intravenous insulin infusions in hyperglycaemic emergencies and perioperative management. The regional LHN CDEs and DEs will also be given the opportunity to present a case study and discuss practical aspects for assessment, education and treatment planning and clinical review requirements.

It is hoped that the program was well received, highly relevant to clinical practice and that aspects of practice will be actioned as a result of attendance.



## Farewell Trish van der Linden

In June 2022, we said goodbye to Patricia 'Trish' van der Linden, CDE-RN.

Trish commenced work as a paediatric diabetes specialist nurse at Flinders Medical Centre, Southern Adelaide LHN in 1990, moving to the hospital wide diabetes service role in 1991. Trish was first credentialed with ADEA in 1993. For the past 22 years, Trish has worked as diabetes specialist nurse in Kangaroo Island (KI), Barossa Hills Fleurieu LHN.



Trish is grateful for the opportunity to be part of the KI community and for the 'privilege to contribute to its wellbeing working with ages from 3years old to 102 yrs old'. Trish feels most proud of her role in helping people improve their health and sharing their joy and smiles when they succeed.

Trish believes she will miss the 'amazing team' she has worked with on Kangaroo Island 'both every day and through the challenging times of bush fires and covid ' and the many diabetes specialist nurses she has met 'who have become like family'. Their support has been appreciated in many 'curly situations'.

Trish has plans for retirement from the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022. We thank Trish for her enthusiasm and expertise in diabetes education and clinical care. We also offer our best wishes for Trish and her family for their future.



## Button batteries and consumer goods

The ACCC is urging businesses who supply button batteries, or products that are powered by them, to ensure they comply with the new button battery safety standards ahead of the laws becoming mandatory on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2022. Manufacturers must undertake compliance testing, supply batteries in child-resistant packaging, and place additional warnings and emergency advice on packaging and instructions.

Button batteries are found in a number of blood glucose meters and some suppliers have acted early by conducting recalls to remove unsafe products containing button batteries from the market. For further information, visit the ACCC [mandatory safety and information standards](#) or [fact sheet](#).

## Prioritisation of semaglutide (Ozempic) supply for people with type 2 diabetes during shortage

Novo Nordisk Pharmaceuticals Pty Ltd, the sponsor of semaglutide (Ozempic) solution for injection pre-filled pen, notified the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) of a shortage of both strengths of semaglutide (Ozempic) products due to extensive prescribing for obesity management, for which Ozempic is not indicated. The shortage is significantly affecting people using Ozempic for its approved use for type 2 diabetes.

The Therapeutic Goods Association together with key diabetes partners, have released a [joint statement](#) to prioritise essential continuity of care for people with type 2 diabetes during the shortage which states 'health professionals should limit prescribing and dispensing of semaglutide to its approved use treatment of adults with insufficiently controlled type 2 diabetes mellitus as an adjunct to diet and exercise:

- as monotherapy when metformin is not tolerated or contraindicated
- in addition to other medicinal products for the treatment of type 2 diabetes.

## Greater access to continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) via the NDSS

Expanding the subsidy access to all people with type 1 diabetes in Australia irrespective of their age and concession card status is an important reform that improves the equity of access to these important technologies. This change will mean:

- CGM devices will be available under the NDSS for those people with diabetes aged 21 and older who don't already have access from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022 for a maximum co-contribution of \$32.50 per month.
- people with diabetes who meet the existing eligibility criteria such as under 21 years, concession card holders and pregnant women or those planning pregnancy will continue to receive unchanged, fully subsidised access to CGM products.

## Useful resources

### NDSS Health Professional Portal

The Department of Health with the assistance of Diabetes Australia has developed the NDSS Health Professional Portal. The Portal will allow CDEs to complete and certify NDSS forms online and offer a more efficient process to register and connect people with diabetes to the NDSS for access to subsidised diabetes products. Forms to be integrated with the Portal include blood glucose monitoring strip six-month access form, insulin pump consumable access form, syringe or pen needle access form.

From 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022, health professionals who are authorised to certify NDSS forms can create an account in the NDSS Health Professional Portal. To use the Portal, CDEs will have to access the NDSS [Health Professional Portal](#) and create a unique account to complete their user profile.

### ADS-ADEA-APEG Consensus Statement: Management of type 2 diabetes in young adults (aged 18-30 years)

The Australian Diabetes Society, ADEA and the Australasian Paediatric Endocrine Group (APEG) have released a consensus statement about the management of type 2 diabetes in young adults.

This is the first Australian statement that considers areas where existing type 2 diabetes guidance, directed mainly towards older adults, may not be appropriate or relevant for the young adult population. Published in the Medical Journal of Australia in April 2022, it can be accessed via the [link](#) or via the [ADS](#), [ADEA](#) or [APEG](#) websites.

### 42 factors that influence blood glucose

Adam Brown is a young man with 18 years of experience living with type 1 diabetes. Based on his personal experience, conversations with experts, and scientific research, he has developed a list of 42 factors that may influence blood glucose. His poster and booklet (poster explained) were recently published on the diaTribe Learn website. For further information, visit the [diaTribe Learn website](#).



### Influenza vaccination

During the COVID-19 pandemic period, there has been lower exposure to influenza virus and lower levels of influenza vaccine coverage compared to previous years. Annual vaccination is the most important measure to prevent influenza and its complications.

In Australia, type A is the most commonly occurring influenza variant. The highest level of protection occurs in the first 3 to 4 months following vaccination. The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) has released advice to support vaccination in its [Statement on the administration of seasonal influenza vaccines in 2022](#).

### HealthPathways SA

HealthPathways are designed primarily for general practice teams but are also available to specialists, allied health professionals, and other health professionals within the Country SA Primary Health Network. A suite of diabetes pathways has been published to support care delivery and navigation for people with diabetes in primary care with the latest pathways listed as [Glycaemic Control](#), [Hypoglycaemia in Adults with Diabetes](#), [Insulin Therapy in Type 2 Diabetes](#) and [Diabetes Medications](#).

### Health Literacy for Clinicians

Only 40% of Australia's population are identified as having an adequate level of health literacy to make informed health care decisions and act on them.

The National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards include a number of actions related to health literacy and supporting partnerships with consumers.

A NSQHS [summary for clinicians](#) and [clinical infographic resources](#) are just some of the resources available.





## Calendar dates

**Australasian Diabetes Congress** will be held in Brisbane from the 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> August 2022. For further information, visit the [ADC](#) website.

**SOMANZ Annual Scientific Meeting** will be held from the 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at the Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart. For further information, visit the [SOMANZ](#) website.

**6th Australasian Diabetes Advancements and Technologies Summit (ADATS)** hosted by the National Association of Diabetes Centres (NADC) will be held on the 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022 in the Goldcoast, Queensland. For further information, visit the NADC [ADATS](#) website.

**Best Practice in Diabetes Centres Meeting** hosted by the National Association of Diabetes Centres (NADC) will be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2022 in the Goldcoast, Queensland. For further information, visit the [NADC BPDC](#) website.

**Australian Paediatric Endocrine Group Annual Scientific Meeting** will be held from the 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022 in Christchurch, New Zealand. For further information, visit the [APEG](#) website.

**Australian Diabetes in Pregnancy Society and International Association of Diabetes in Pregnancy Study Groups Annual Scientific Meeting** in Sydney in November 2022. For further information, visit the [ADIPS](#) website.

**International Diabetes Federation Complications Congress** – will be held in Lisbon, Portugal from the 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022. For further information, including access to the online program, visit the [IDF](#) website.

**38th CRANaplus Conference** – For further information and to join the mailing list, visit the [CRANaplus](#) website.

## Professional development and scholarships

### Australian College of Nursing (CAN) and SA Health Nursing & Midwifery Scholarships

The ACN and SA Health Scholarships aim to support nurses and midwives to explore best practice. A number of scholarships are available at [ACN](#) and [Nursing & Midwifery Office - SA Health](#) website.

### Webinars, online training modules and podcasts

Numerous webinars, online training modules and podcasts can be viewed 'live' or retrospectively are offered by the ADS, ADEA, National Association of Diabetes Centres (NADC), National Prescribing Service (NPS) and Pharmacia. For further information, visit the:

- [ADS](#) website and go to the ADS Conference Connect webpage to register
- [ADEA](#) website
- [NADC](#) website and the
- [NPS Medicinewise](#) website.

The National Diabetes Care Course has been developed by the National Association of Diabetes Centres (NADC) to provide healthcare providers in a range of general care settings with current knowledge of diabetes clinical management and self-care regulation has been updated. To register your interest and cost, please contact: [admin@nadc.net.au](mailto:admin@nadc.net.au).



## For more information

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Email: [Health.DiabetesService@sa.gov.au](mailto:Health.DiabetesService@sa.gov.au)

[www.chsa-diabetes.org.au](http://www.chsa-diabetes.org.au)

[www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/regionalhealth](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/regionalhealth)

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