Modernising diabetes care in Scotland

3,990 patients on insulin pumps

National Procurement
Currently Scotland has the third highest incidence of type 1 diabetes in the world, and work is being done at a national level to ensure more patients have appropriate access to new technology as it becomes available.

In the last few years insulin pumps and associated technology have revolutionised patient care in Scotland, enabling patients to have better control and more independence in how they manage their condition. Insulin pumps allow more tailored control, normally eliminating the need for multiple daily injections.

Central funding from the Scottish Government has allowed health boards to support the increased investment in insulin pump technology in recent years. At the time of writing, there are 3,990 patients in Scotland on insulin pumps, with 1,111 of those aged under 18 such as Jacob (pictured).

In National Procurement, insulin infusion pumps and associated technology are sourced for supply to NHSScotland, with input from a clinical advisory panel (CAP). The CAP has representation from all health boards in Scotland including paediatric and adult clinical teams as well as patient representatives who are invited to review products and determine tender requirements. Each tender then specifies additional requirements, such as training in equipment and supply of education programmes for patients.

Interested in finding out more? Contact nss.communications@nhs.net

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