

WEARABLE DIABETES TECHNOLOGY

CAN YOU TELL THE DIFFERENCE?



If a person with diabetes, particularly type 1 diabetes, is admitted to hospital - ask if they use any wearable diabetes technology. If they are unconscious, make sure you check them for wearable diabetes technology - usually worn on the arm or the abdomen but sometimes the thighs or buttocks.

- i** **Insulin pumps** - Deliver a constant infusion of rapid acting insulin via a cannula under the skin. There are two main types:
 - **Patch pumps** - Cannula is integral to the pump unit and controlled by a separate handset. **There is a risk these can be confused with continuous glucose monitors.**
 - **Tethered pumps** - Pump unit is connected to the cannula via tubing.
- i** **Continuous glucose monitors (CGM)** - Provide continuous glucose readings from measurements taken from a subcutaneous sensor. **There is a risk these can be confused with patch pumps.**

Remember

- ✓ Check if the patient being admitted has wearable diabetes technology
- ✓ If an insulin pump is removed it must be replaced with alternative insulin ASAP
- ✓ Ensure you know the difference between a CGM and a pump.

Removal of an insulin pump

- i** If removing an insulin pump there is a risk of DKA, unless insulin is administered in another way.
- i** If the person is unconscious insulin delivery may have been interrupted and there is a risk of DKA, consider alternative insulin delivery.

Remember don't discard any devices that are removed as they are highly valuable and need to be stored in a safe place.

For further information on managing insulin pumps in people admitted to hospital scan the QR code or visit <https://abcd.care/resource/current/jbds-20-using-technology-support-diabetes-care-hospital>



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