

# NHS Tayside submission of 2 October 2023

## PE2031/B: Provide insulin pumps to all children with type 1 diabetes in Scotland

Thank you very much for your letter of 21 September 2023 highlighting the above petition, and for the opportunity to contribute to the Committee's discussion on behalf of NHS Tayside.

NHS Tayside is a member of the Accelerated National Innovation Adoption Pathway, which is a national initiative focused on harnessing technological innovation to effectively address some of the most complex health challenges in Scotland. The Pathway actively seeks out complex health problems to develop innovative solutions with the objective of ensuring a direct and enduring positive impact on patient outcomes.

You may be aware that the Pathway's approach to innovation is focused on deriving value across services to promote specific improvement objectives in relation to the following:

1. Patient outcomes
2. Patient experience
3. Staff experience
4. Productivity
5. Environmental sustainability

The Committee will wish to know that the Accelerated National Innovation Adoption Pathway is founded on the principle of collaboration among key organisations across Scotland, and is led by the Centre for Sustainable Delivery to rapidly bring proven innovations into service.

In regard to Diabetes Closed Loop Systems, the Scottish Health Technologies Group has undertaken a detailed Health Technology Assessment of Closed Loop System technology that led to a formal recommendation for the deployment of the technology to people living with Type 1 Diabetes in Scotland. This recommendation contributed to the Scottish Government's decision to invest £14.6 million in 2021/2022 to improve patient access to a range of diabetes technologies, monies that were subsequently allocated to Boards to support rapid deployment.

To take forward the recommendation established by the Scottish Health Technologies Group, NHS Tayside currently follows NICE Guidance in

managing Type 1 Diabetes and considers any person, adult or child, with Type 1 Diabetes to be eligible for insulin pump therapy. Indeed, the following patient groups are prioritised by NHS Tayside for insulin pump therapy:

- Those under 5yrs
- Those with high glucose levels on average, i.e. HbA1c >75mmols/mol
- Those waiting more than 1 year
- Those with severe hypoglycaemia and/or recurrent diabetic ketoacidosis.

NHS Tayside therefore offers Closed Loop Systems to all children and young people that meet the appropriate clinical criteria and engages with neighbouring boards i.e. NHS Fife, NHS Grampian and NHS Highland, to support the care of their patients in certain cases where there is a need to work collaboratively to mitigate health inequalities and digital exclusion. Indeed, it is NHS Tayside's policy to positively discriminate individuals with poor glucose health, pre-school children and those who have been waiting for more than one year, as outlined above, regardless of where they live.

The Committee should know that NHS Tayside does not maintain a quota of funded Closed Loop Systems or Continual Glucose Monitoring systems and is committed to continuing the prioritised development and implementation of technology in line with guidance, recommendations and emerging evidence base in a controlled and sustainable manner. More specifically, NHS Tayside is committed to the provision of Closed Loop Systems to all children and young people to align with NICE guideline 18, section 1.2.63 - 1.2.65, Guidance 116 published by the Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network that relates to the Management of Diabetes, and Commitments 2.2 and 8.1 noted in the Scottish Government's (2021) Diabetes Improvement Plan.

Currently 95 children and young people with Type 1 Diabetes in Tayside, i.e. 44.6% of current caseload, are provided with Closed Loop Systems and we project approximately 30 new diagnoses in the next year, with a similar number of existing patients transitioning to adult services in the next year also. NHS Tayside's aspiration is, of course, to deliver enhanced outcomes and improved wellbeing to all children and young people receiving care, support and treatment for Type 1 Diabetes through person-centered care planning. NHS Tayside looks forward to completion of the ongoing national tendering exercise in regard to the procurement of Continuous Glucose Monitoring technology and

publication of enhanced guidance in respect of interoperability of devices available in what is a rapidly developing technological environment.

I hope very much that this response is considered helpful to the Committee and informs the development of the petition and policy in regard to the provision of insulin pumps across Scotland.