

# Management of Diabetes Undergoing Elective Surgery

## Diabetes and Endocrinology

Patient information leaflet for  
patients on non-insulin  
treatments

## **These instructions are for patients whose diabetes is controlled only by oral drugs or GLP-1 injections (e.g. Byetta, Victoza, Lyxumia), and not insulin.**

### **On the day before surgery**

Continue your usual diabetic medications and follow any bowel preparations as advised by your surgeon/staff at the pre-assessment clinic.

### **On the day of surgery**

If you are taking metformin (Glucophage) or weekly versions of GLP-1 (e.g. Bydureon, Trulicity, Ozempic), continue taking these medications.

If you are having a procedure involving the injection of contrast into your veins, for example angioplasty; metformin should be withheld until after the procedure.

Otherwise, all other medications that you are taking should be stopped from the time of fasting.

Remember to bring to hospital all your diabetes medications, dextrose tablets and blood testing equipment.

When you arrive at hospital your blood glucose will be tested by finger prick and then monitored regularly.

You can ask for extra blood testing if you feel symptoms of a 'hypo' (low blood glucose).

The target for safe surgery is 6 – 10 mmol. You may need insulin treatment to bring down high glucose, or dextrose infusion for treatment of low blood glucose.

## After surgery

You will be discharged when you are eating and drinking normally and your blood glucose is at a safe level.

However, if you are unwell with either:

- **Continuous** vomiting/diarrhoea, or high fever
- **Unable** to keep food down for 4 hours or more
- **High** blood glucose (>15.0 mmol by finger prick testing)
- **High** ketones (>0.6 mmol)

You should seek medical help. During office hours contact your usual Diabetes Specialist Nurse or Doctor.

At other times contact your local out-of-hours GP service.

**Please use this space for any notes you may wish to make**

If you have any questions, or if there is anything you do not understand about this leaflet, please contact:

The Diabetes and Endocrine Centre on 01384 244399

Russells Hall Hospital switchboard number: 01384 456111

**This leaflet can be downloaded or printed from:**

<http://dgft.nhs.uk/services-and-wards/diabetes-and-endocrinology/>

If you have any feedback on this patient information leaflet, please email [dgft.patient.information@nhs.net](mailto:dgft.patient.information@nhs.net)

**This leaflet can be made available in large print, audio version and in other languages, please call 0800 073 0510.**

للحصول على هذه النشرة بحجم أكبر، وعلى شكل إصدار صوتي و بلغات أخرى، الرجاء الاتصال بالرقم 08000730510.

此宣传单可提供大字版本、音频版本和其它语言版本，请拨打电话：0800 073 0510。

Ulotka dostępna jest również w dużym druku, wersji audio lub w innym języku. W tym celu zadzwoń pod numer 0800 073 0510.

ਇਹ ਪਰਚਾ ਵੱਡੇ ਅੱਖਰਾਂ, ਬੋਲ ਕੇ ਰੀਕਾਰਡ ਕੀਤਾ ਹੋਇਆ ਅਤੇ ਦੂਸਰੀਆਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਹੋ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ, 0800 073 0510 ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ ਜੀ।

Aceasta broșura poate fi pusă la dispoziție tipărită cu caractere mari, versiune audio sau în alte limbi, pentru acest lucru vă rugăm sunați la 0800 073 0510.

یہ کتابچہ آپ کو بڑے حروف کی لکھائی، سمعی صورت اور دیگر زبانوں میں مہیا کیا جا سکتا ہے۔ برائے مہربانی فون نمبر 08000730510 پر رابطہ کریں۔