

## Background

### Diabetes Technology

#### Hybrid Closed Loop (HCL) Systems

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) published a Technology Appraisal that increases access to Hybrid Closed Loop technology for people with type 1 diabetes. HCL technologies are the next phase of technical advancement sometimes referred to as an ‘artificial pancreas.’

As a local NHS we are excited to be able to offer HCL systems for people with type 1 diabetes in a phased 5-year roll-out program. This is an option for people that will bring a multitude of positive benefits for those who wish to use it.

## Our Plan

We will offer HCL to people with type 1 diabetes in Dorset following the 6 principles in the NHS England implementation plan<sup>1i</sup>.

The six principles are:

1. Initial roll out will be to people with Type 1 diabetes with the most need.
2. The systems will be delivered by specialist centres.
3. Education is provided from specialist centres to support patients to achieve the best outcomes.
4. The technology will be phased into the NHS in an equitable and sustainable manner.
5. The NHS will only offer technologies from within the cost-effective framework.
6. The implementation will be transparent.

NHS England has recommended that health systems focus on the following groups first:

- children
- young people
- women, trans men and non-binary people who are pregnant or planning a pregnancy
- adults already using insulin pumps who want to transition to an HCL system

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<sup>1</sup> [NHS England » Hybrid closed loop technologies: 5-year implementation strategy](#)

## Resources

HCL will require significant financial and clinical resources over the next 5 years. This means there will need to be careful management of getting the best value from diabetes technology in Dorset to allow funding to be prioritised to allow more people to have the benefits of HCL.

NHS Dorset works with diabetes teams to allocate diabetes technologies to those people in a way that considers the significant benefits to people and the cost implications of this change within a limited budget available. NHS Dorset will add this resource to the new funding NHS England is providing over the 5 year plan.

## Device choice

We will provide a cost-effective HCL solution that allows as many individuals as possible to access the technology within the limited budget available that meets the clinical need of people in Dorset.

NHS England have provided a framework of options for Dorset to choose from. We will be offering the most cost-effective option as first line for the majority of people but there may be clinical situations which require consideration of alternative system and your clinical team can discuss this with you.

## Timelines

Diabetes teams will be contacting people during the 5-year plan as soon as possible to discuss what diabetes technology will work and what support and education each person will need. Each team will be working as fast as they can to do this safely and fairly.

Groups with type 1 diabetes	Predicted availability
Children and Young People under 19yrs	Roll out will start Autumn 2024 and continue until each person has been offered HCL
Women, trans men and non-binary people who are pregnant or planning a pregnancy	
Adults already using insulin pumps who want to transition to an HCL system	
Adults with Hba1C > 58, not using insulin pumps who want to transition to an HCL system	Estimated start 2026/27

## What does this mean for people in Dorset?

If you are currently seen by a diabetes service in Dorset you will be contacted if you are eligible for HCL technology as soon as they have capacity.

If you already have an insulin pump then the diabetes team will contact you when the team have capacity to arrange to switch you to HCL. This may require some additional education and support, and we will arrange this on individual clinical needs.

If you do not have an insulin pump then we will discuss your access to hybrid closed loop as part of your routine clinic appointment when you next attend.

If you feel you are in one of the priority groups who are starting to be offered HCL from January 2025 and have not had a discussion around HCL please contact your diabetes team or ask your general practice team to refer you to the diabetes team of your choice in Dorset.

If you have been self-funding continuous glucose monitoring, using an NHS funded insulin pump you will be contacted to discuss NHS funding and which sensor is most appropriate and cost effective.

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<b>Version Control</b>					
Date of Issue	Version No	Date of Next Review	Nature of Change	Approval Date	Approval Committee /Group
Oct 24	1	Oct 2025	N/A	15/10/24	Diabetes Clinical Network / ICB SLT