

# Knowledge base and attitudes of senior medical staff on insulin therapy in children with diabetes



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## Background\Objectives

- In Wales, children with diabetes are more likely to be admitted to hospital than their peers
- Knowledge on Multiple Daily Injections (MDI) and Continuous Subcutaneous Insulin Infusion (CSII) regimen impacts on the out-of-hours advice given to families of children with diabetes.
- We aimed to assess confidence levels of middle grade doctors to provide advice on insulin regimens.

## Methods

We conducted a questionnaire based survey to assess knowledge base and followed it up with training sessions delivered by the diabetic team. A Survey Monkey based questionnaire was circulated to all middle grades and consultants in the paediatric department. Questions included

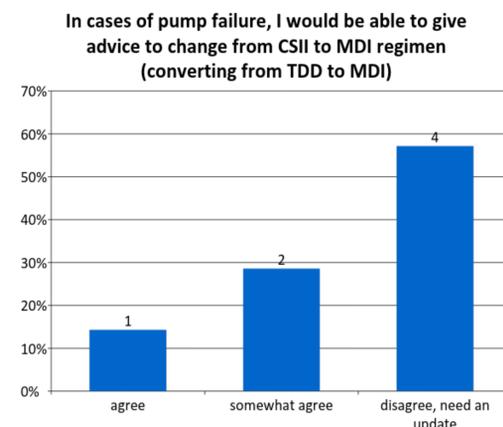
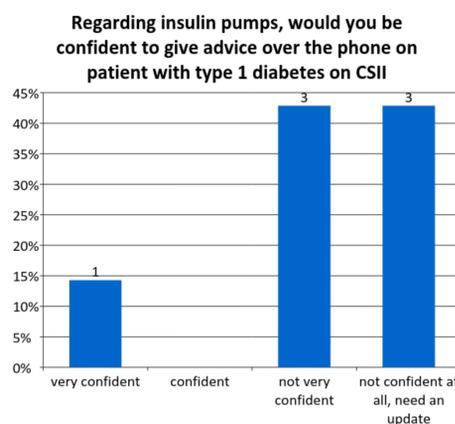
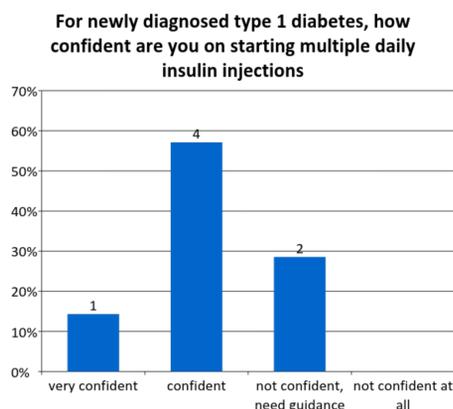
- Calculation based scenarios
- Confidence levels at managing DKA
- Trouble shooting insulin pump queries
- Future training sessions content

Free text option for responses was provided

## References

Key words – Multiple Daily Injections MDI,  
Continuous Subcutaneous Insulin  
Infusion CSII, insulin pumps

## Results



- 3 consultants, 5 middle grades (ST4-8) and 2 associate specialist doctors responded
- 27% were not confident on starting MDI for newly diagnosed cases
- Majority were confident of managing DKA and providing advice over 'sick day rules'
- 57% were unable to advise change from CSII to MDI regimen
- 85% were not confident on providing advice over the phone regarding pump use

## Conclusion

- The project lacked in numbers, post teaching survey responses were minimal.
- There is a significant lack in knowledge base regarding insulin pump therapy. There is scope for guideline development and training on different pumps used in CSII.
- It may be argued that OOH diabetes advice should be provided by the specialist team, not general paediatrics.