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Juvenile Diabetes: Artificial Pancreas Project

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The [Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation](#) is helping fund research to develop an artificial pancreas. The *Eye on Health team* spoke with the director of the project, who was in Las Vegas.

Parents of diabetics were among those who came to the JDRF luncheon to hear scientific researcher, Aaron Kowalski talk about efforts to develop an insulin delivery system that can automatically adjust glucose levels.

Kowalski is himself a type 1 diabetic. He says until there's a cure, new technology can make life easier for diabetics and reduce the risk of complications.

JDRF's Aaron Kowalski said, "The burden of doing multiple finger sticks a day, the burden of a parent waking up and testing their child over night. If we can alleviate some of that, we can significantly improve the quality of life for people with diabetes."

Colleen Saca, executive director of the Nevada chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, said, "So, this is a great opportunity for Las Vegas to hear about cutting edge research and where their fundraising dollars are actually making a tremendous difference in the life of a diabetic."

It's this research that gives hope to people like Las Vegas resident Christina Middlebrook, whose four-year-old son Connor is a diabetic.

"It's hard. It's very hard. And we're hoping that we're going to find a cure soon. And we're really shooting maybe for his next birthday in July. Not just for Connor but for all the children," Christina Middlebrook said.