



Healthcare Advocacy Overview

Ensuring Coverage, Affordability and Choice

In the national dialogue about healthcare, the voices and needs of people with type 1 diabetes (T1D) must be amplified. Out-of-pocket costs for diabetes treatments and management tools are soaring. People live in fear that T1D, as a pre-existing condition, could deny them coverage. JDRF advocates on behalf of people living with T1D to ensure they have access to adequate coverage, at affordable prices, with the freedom to choose the drugs and tools that are right for them.

Why It Matters

People with T1D rely on daily supplies of insulin and devices that accurately dose this life saving medication. Yet if coverage is threatened and prices continue to rise, it could cost people their livelihoods — or lives. Insurers, employers, drug companies and the government all have a responsibility to help. JDRF works tirelessly to hold them accountable and find practical solutions that best serve the T1D community.

“ I didn’t choose to get type 1 diabetes — my immune system turned on itself when I was 10. I need insurance that makes insulin affordable so I don’t have to choose between insulin and rent, or insulin and food. That shouldn’t be a choice anyone has to make. ”

— Lala J., 31 years old, diagnosed at age 10

Program Goals



Coverage: Ensure T1D remains a protected pre-existing condition so no one with T1D is denied coverage due to their disease



Affordability: Manage the out-of-pocket costs for insulin and other tools so they remain predictable and reasonable



Choice: Give people access to all life saving technology, from continuous glucose monitors (CGMs) to artificial pancreas systems



Every voice strengthens our impact. We need you! Learn more about joining us by visiting jdrf.org/JOIN or Text “ACT” to 53731 (JDRF1).

Healthcare Coverage by the Numbers

Medical expenses for people with T1D are **3 times higher** than for people without diabetes

Over a 10-year period, **the cost of insulin increased threefold**

1.25 million Americans risk losing healthcare coverage if T1D is not a protected pre-existing condition

Our Work



#Coverage2Control

A JDRF campaign — backed by thousands of grassroots advocates — is calling on insurers, employers, drug companies and the government to take meaningful and realistic actions that help people with T1D control the disease through adequate and affordable healthcare coverage.



Insulin Access and Innovation

We advocate to insulin manufacturers, health insurance providers, pharmacy benefit managers and employers to demand that insulin is affordable to those who need it and that critical innovation can continue.



Healthcare Principles

We have released a set of healthcare principles — including maintaining T1D as a protected pre-existing condition, allowing young adults with T1D to stay on family plans longer, prohibiting dollar limits on insulin and eliminating current Medicare coverage gaps — and are working with government and industry leaders to ensure they are considered in any future healthcare reforms.



Medicare Coverage

Thanks to extensive advocacy by JDRF volunteers and staff, clinician support and strong bipartisan support from Congress, CGM devices that are approved for use in T1D treatment are now eligible for Medicare coverage.

How You Can Help

Become a JDRF Advocate. Sign up to receive action alerts to help secure legislative support for research and influence policy making at jdrf.org/JOIN and visit coverage2control.com to send a message to your insurance company and discover all the ways you can support coverage that works for people with T1D.

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Every gift takes us one step closer to a cure for T1D. Find out how you can support JDRF and make a difference in the lives of people with T1D by visiting jdrf.org/donate.

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