

# Choice of Technology Matters

## Tell Insurance Companies:

**My Diabetes.  
My Technology.  
My Choice.**

To stay healthy, people with diabetes need insurance coverage that allows them to control their disease. Through its #Coverage2Control campaign, JDRF is urging insurance companies to **say “no” to exclusive agreements with pump makers and continuous glucose monitors (CGM) manufacturers that limit patient choice.** JDRF feels strongly that people with type 1 diabetes (T1D) should have the freedom to choose the diabetes management technology that’s best for them.

## The Tech Choice Problem

Two types of diabetes technology have greatly improved quality of life and health outcomes for people with T1D: insulin pumps and CGMs. More than 1.6 million Americans with T1D must take insulin and monitor their blood glucose levels to live. But just like diabetes isn’t one size-fits-all, neither is the technology to manage it. Some pumps are waterproof, have larger reservoirs, or connect to a specific brand of CGM. Some CGMs allow sharing of glucose data with a caregiver, while others are more discreet under clothing. Many people with T1D and their physicians choose how to best manage glucose levels based on these specific features. If an insurer won’t cover, or stops covering someone’s preferred brand of technology, the person may decide to go without it. This puts their health at risk and leads to higher healthcare costs for everyone.

Many new technologies, including independent insulin dosing algorithms, are on the horizon. If insurers have exclusive agreements with device manufacturers, this new technology may never get the chance to come to market and improve the health of people with T1D.

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## Why Choice Matters

**Insulin pumps and CGMs are sophisticated medical devices that save lives—**different ones work best for different people. It’s a personal decision that directly affects how people manage their T1D, and so it should be them, and their healthcare team, who make this decision—not their insurance company.

Along with limiting choice, these agreements impact our healthcare system: they discourage innovation and can increase long-term healthcare costs. When a medical device manufacturer enters into agreements with insurers, they have little incentive to innovate and develop new treatments, making it even harder to manage what is already a challenging disease.

**You  
Can  
Help!**

**Become an  
advocate.**

Help build and sustain critical support for type 1 diabetes (T1D). Visit [jdrf.org/join](http://jdrf.org/join).

**Share your  
support.**

On Facebook, Twitter and Instagram using #Coverage2Control, and encourage others to join us in this effort, by following @JDRFAdvocacy.

**Visit.**

[Coverage2Control.com](http://Coverage2Control.com) to learn more about JDRF’s campaign and why pump choice matters.