



Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board (NNICB) Interim Position Statement:

Hybrid Closed Loop (HCL) Systems for Managing Blood Glucose Levels in Type 1 Diabetes.

Approved by – Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated
Care System (NNICS) Diabetes Steering Group

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Review date – Once business case approved

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board (NNICB) Position Statement on Hybrid Closed Loop Systems (HCL) for Managing Blood Glucose Levels in Type 1 diabetes.

In April 2024 NICE published a NICE technology appraisal [TA943](#) which recommends;

Hybrid closed loop (HCL) systems are recommended as an option for managing blood glucose levels in type 1 diabetes for adults who have an HbA1c of 58 mmol/mol (7.5%) or more, or have disabling hypoglycaemia, despite best possible management with at least 1 of the following:

- continuous subcutaneous insulin infusion (CSII)
- real-time continuous glucose monitoring
- intermittently scanned continuous glucose monitoring.

HCL systems are recommended as an option for managing blood glucose levels in type 1 diabetes for children and young people.

HCL systems are recommended as an option for managing blood glucose levels in type 1 diabetes for women, trans men and non-binary people who are pregnant or planning to become pregnant.

Only use HCL systems with the support of a trained multidisciplinary team experienced in CSII and continuous glucose monitoring in type 1 diabetes.

HCL systems are only recommended if they are procured at a cost-effective price agreed by the companies and NHS England, and implemented following [NHS England's implementation plan](#).

Only use HCL systems if the person or their carer:

- is able to use them, and
- is offered approved face-to-face or digital structured education programmes, or
- is competent in insulin dosing and adjustments.

Due to the complexities and system changes needed, access to hybrid closed loop systems will be through a 5 -year phased roll out in line with [NHS England's implementation plan](#).

The Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care System are progressing local delivery plans to support equitable roll out across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire in line with the NHS England's implementation. The principles underpinning the delivery plan are:

- Principle 1: HCL technologies will be initially rolled out to type 1 diabetes patients where the need is greatest and to those who are likely to benefit most.
- Principle 2: HCL technologies will be delivered from specialist centres with paediatric units regarded as the optimal place to start implementation.
- Principle 3: Education and training is a vital component in supporting wider access to HCL technologies and will be at the heart of the rollout. Professional and patient representative groups, specialist centres and manufacturers will all need to align to provide this.
- Principle 4: HCL technologies will be phased into the NHS in both an equitable and sustainable manner to avoid exacerbation of existing health inequalities.
- Principle 5: NHS bodies will only purchase HCL technologies in line with the recommendation set out in the NICE technology appraisal. NHS England reserves the right to undertake further commercial activity to ensure HCL systems continue to deliver value for the NHS as new technology emerges.
- Principle 6: The phased implementation of HCL will be transparent and supported by data. A robust process for monitoring and reporting uptake will be formalised through the National Diabetes Audit and National Paediatric Diabetes Audit.

Specialists will assess patients under their care and prioritise those with greatest need in line with locally agreed plans.

Specialist diabetes services in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire are already offering HCL technology for people with type 1 diabetes who are:

- All children and young people aged under 18 years
- Some adults at very high risk.

Suggested action for Primary Care

NHS systems have been given five years starting from 1 April 2024, to fully implement the recommendations in the NICE guidelines. During the first two years, specialist diabetes clinical teams will be focussing on identifying those type 1 diabetes patients with the greatest clinical need who meet the criteria stipulated in NICE TA 943, to ensure they are provided with this technology first. This approach is in line with NHS England's national implementation strategy.

Patients under Secondary Care teams:

Patients with type 1 diabetes who are already under Secondary Care should be reassured that there are roll out plans in place and that eligibility for HCL can be discussed at their next routine hospital specialist appointment. To help manage patient expectations it would be helpful if clinicians could let patients know that the roll out may take up to five years.

Patients only under Primary Care team:

Nationally one third of people living with type 1 diabetes do not access specialist services.

Patients with type 1 diabetes who are under the sole care of Primary Care should be referred to a local consultant led hospital specialist diabetes services (paediatric, transition or adult services depending on the patient's age and local referral age cut offs). The services will optimise the person's diabetes management before assessing whether HCL is appropriate. Please ensure that care processes are up to date before the referral is made.

Primary Care clinicians should aim to identify patients who are not under the care of specialist services opportunistically when they have their annual review or are attending the practice for other reasons. As the HCL roll out progresses practices may be asked to systematically identify patients to ensure that health inequalities are not exacerbated.

Please note that it is recommended that all patients under the age of 18 regardless of type of diabetes should be referred to hospital paediatric services.

Further Information:

Fact sheet outlining what Primary Care teams need to know can be found here:

<https://diabetesonthenet.com/diabetes-primary-care/factsheet-hybrid-closed-loop-therapy/>

Diabetes UK information on HCL

<https://www.diabetes.org.uk/guide-to-diabetes/diabetes-technology/closed-loop-systems>

FAQ and further information for the public can be found here;

NICE [Information for the public | Hybrid closed loop systems for managing blood glucose levels in type 1 diabetes | Guidance | NICE](#)

Diabetes UK - [NICE announces final appraisal recommendations on hybrid closed-loop systems for type 1 diabetes](#)

Adapted with kind permission from South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board.