

press release

Novo Nordisk drives innovation in diabetes care with launch of first smart connected insulin pens in the UK

- *NovoPen® 6 and NovoPen Echo® Plus are a new generation of insulin pens that record dosing information over a period of time. They are now available to people living with diabetes on NHS prescription.*
- *People living with type 1 diabetes experienced a reduction in time spent in hyperglycaemia and missed fewer bolus injections, when using NovoPen® 6 in an observational study¹*
- *NovoPen® 6 and NovoPen Echo® Plus are reusable, reducing their environmental impact, in line with Novo Nordisk's Circular for Zero environmental strategy²*

Gatwick, UK, 1 March 2022 – Today, Novo Nordisk announced that two smart connected insulin pens, NovoPen® 6 and NovoPen Echo® Plus, are now available on prescription for people living with diabetes treated with Novo Nordisk insulin in the UK.

NovoPen® 6 and NovoPen Echo® Plus are insulin injection pens that record dosing information, including when and how much insulin was administered.^{3,4} This data can be uploaded to a compatible app, and viewed by people living with diabetes and their healthcare professionals.^{3,4} Currently, insulin injection dosing information is manually recorded in a log book or app. However, in clinical practice, incomplete or inaccurate information on insulin dosing and timing can be a significant barrier to optimising glycaemic control.⁵

NovoPen® 6 and NovoPen Echo® Plus can allow healthcare professionals to view their patients' insulin dosing information,^{3,4} helping to facilitate more productive consultations and support personalised treatment guidance. Remote access to this data may also help to support a longer-term transition from in-person to virtual care, during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, which could also help alleviate pressure on health system capacity.

Emma Wilmot, Consultant Diabetologist, University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust said: *"Integrating innovative technology as a routine part of diabetes care is an important step to improve diabetes care. Novo Nordisk's smart connected pens are an example of how technology can support people living with diabetes to gain greater insight into the management of their diabetes, on their journey to becoming experts in their diabetes. In my clinic, the opportunity to view daily insulin data will allow me to better support the individual with diabetes to achieve*

their goals. It will allow for more tailored and informed advice on optimisation of glucose levels, with the ultimate goal of improving future outcomes.”

Results from an observational study indicate that using NovoPen® 6 to administer their insulin could give people living with type 1 diabetes close to two extra hours of improved glucose levels (measured as HbA_{1c} 3.9 – 10.0 mmol/L) per day, with a reduction in time spent in hyperglycaemia (measured as HbA_{1c} >10 mmol/L) and level 2 hypoglycaemia (measured as HbA_{1c} <3.0 mmol/L).¹ A further analysis looking at missed bolus doses (insulin that is specifically taken at mealtimes) indicated that NovoPen® 6 decreased the average daily number of missed doses by 43% (p=0.002) by the end of the study.¹

Pinder Sahota, General Manager, Novo Nordisk UK, said *“We believe digital innovation of devices and treatments has the potential to transform people’s lives and help alleviate the daily burden of living with diabetes. Our smart connected insulin pens aim to empower people to better understand their diabetes management, have more informed conversations with their doctor and ultimately improve their blood glucose control.”*

NovoPen® 6 and NovoPen Echo® Plus are reusable and in line with Novo Nordisk’s Circular for Zero ambition to have zero environmental impact.²

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About NovoPen® 6 and NovoPen Echo® Plus

NovoPen® 6 and NovoPen Echo® Plus are reusable insulin pens compatible with Novo Nordisk insulin cartridges.^{3,4} The pens record dosing information, including when and how much insulin was injected, which can be downloaded to a compatible app or platform for review, via Near Field Communication.^{3,4} Data is automatically recorded for up to 3 months (or the last 800 events, whichever comes first) of insulin usage.⁶

NovoPen® 6 can administer insulin in 1-unit dose increments, up to a maximum of 60-units per dose. NovoPen Echo® Plus can administer insulin in 0.5-unit dose increments, up to a maximum of 30-units per dose, and is suitable for paediatric use and/or other people living with diabetes.^{3,4}

NovoPen® 6 and NovoPen Echo® Plus are fully integrated with Glooko Diasend® and Glooko clinic solutions, which are already widely used within the NHS and the corresponding patient apps. These allow people with diabetes to view their insulin dosing data alongside glucose data that they have also uploaded to Glooko’s platform. If the NovoPen® 6 or NovoPen Echo® Plus user currently uploads their glucose data into a different platform, they can still upload their insulin data into the Glooko platform for review against this. Novo Nordisk expects the pens to be integrated directly into other commonly used patient-facing apps and healthcare professional portals in the near future. Novo Nordisk is open to partnerships with other leaders

in diabetes care including technology companies and CGM (Continuous Glucose Monitoring) manufacturers to improve the lives of people with diabetes. For that reason, Novo Nordisk has also created the Novo Nordisk Developer Portal, enabling developers of apps, software systems and devices who support the wellbeing of people living with diabetes to connect their innovative solutions to Novo Nordisk's smart connected insulin pens.

About Novo Nordisk

Novo Nordisk is a leading global healthcare company, founded in 1923 and headquartered in Denmark. Our purpose is to drive change to defeat diabetes and other serious chronic diseases such as obesity and rare blood and endocrine disorders. We do so by pioneering scientific breakthroughs, expanding access to our medicines, and working to prevent and ultimately cure disease. Novo Nordisk employs about 47,800 people in 80 countries and markets its products in around 170 countries. For more information, visit novonordisk.co.uk

Further information

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References

¹ Adolfsson P et al. Increased Time in Range and Fewer Missed Bolus Injections After Introduction of a Smart Connected Insulin Pen. *Diabetes Technology & Therapeutics*. 2020; 22(10):709-718.

² Novo Nordisk. Data on File. Smart connected pens environmental considerations.

³ NovoPen® 6 Quick User Guide 2020.

⁴ NovoPen Echo® Plus Quick User Guide 2020.

⁵ Klonoff DC and Kerr D. Smart Pens Will Improve Insulin Therapy. *Journal of Diabetes Science and Technology*. 2018; 12(3):551-553.

⁶ Novo Nordisk Data on File. Smart connected pens injection history - Records the last 800 injections.