

What is Type 1 Diabetes?

What is Type 1 Diabetes?

Type 1 diabetes is an **auto-immune condition** in which the immune system is activated to destroy the cells in the **pancreas** which produce **insulin**.

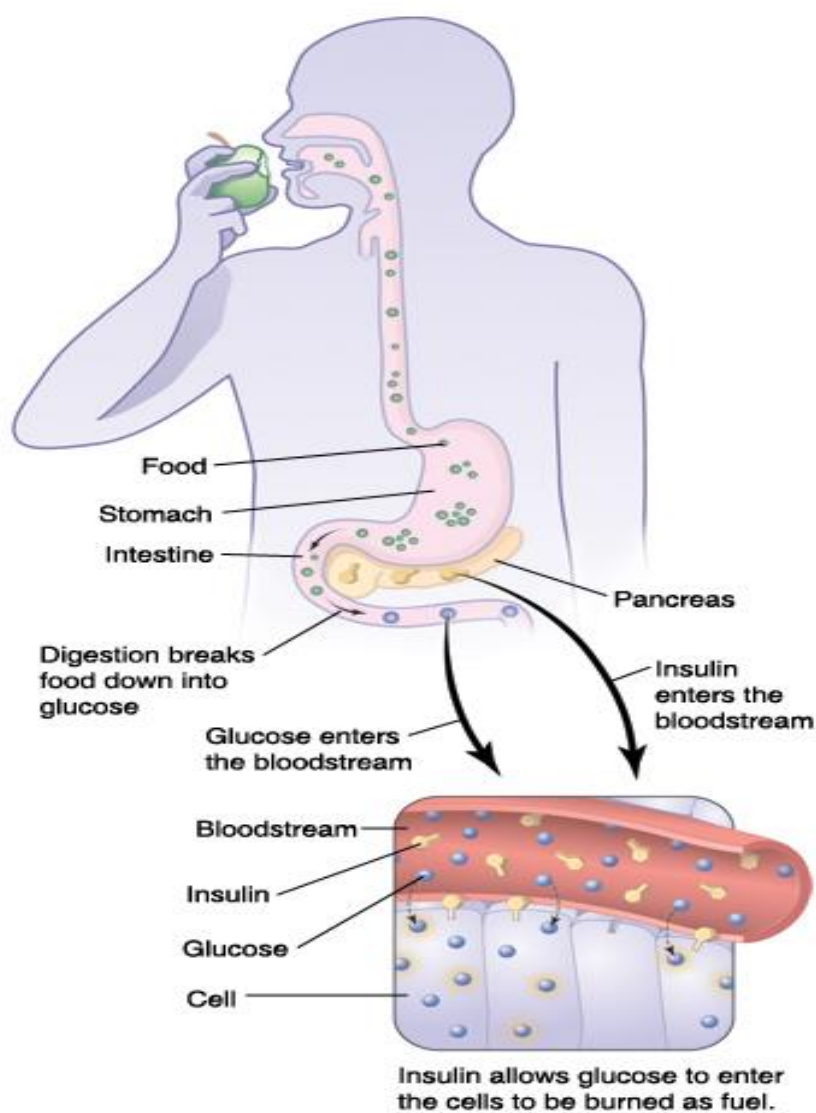


Figure 1

Role of the Pancreas & Insulin

The **pancreas** is a large gland behind the stomach (see above) that produces the hormone **insulin**. Insulin enables the body to use glucose (sugar) found in food for energy. Insulin acts like a key to unlock your cells which lets the glucose be used for energy.

Information for patients, families and carers

Glucose

Instead of the body converting **glucose** for energy, glucose builds up in your blood stream causing your blood glucose levels to become elevated. At this stage we do not know what causes this auto-immune reaction.

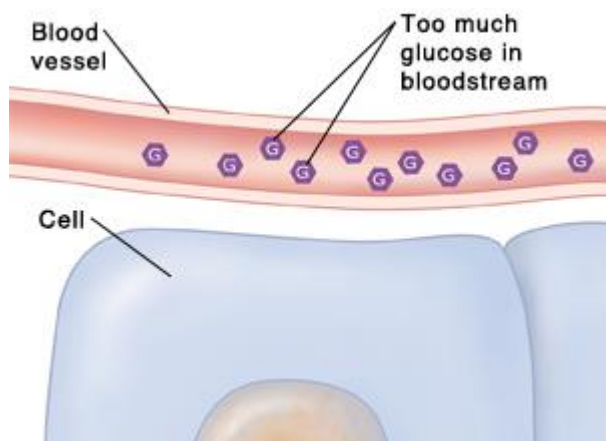


Figure 2

If you would like to know more about type 1 diabetes please visit the following links

- <https://youtu.be/C3AQIfgthh4>
- <https://youtu.be/OYvav8aDGcc>

For information



Department of Paediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes (DPED)
(03) 8572 3051