Ontario Increasing Access to Insulin Pump Therapy for Diabetics

TORONTO — World Diabetes Day on November 14, the Ontario government is expanding access to insulin pump therapy through the Assistive Devices Program (ADP). These changes will make it easier for nearly 4,000 Ontarians to access funding for insulin pumps and supplies up to a year sooner, helping more adults and children better manage their diabetes, improve their quality of life and access the care and support they need.

"Our government is breaking down barriers for people living with diabetes, helping them access the care and supports they need to live healthier lives," said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. "These changes will increase access to treatment and reduce administrative burden, while making it easier for Ontarians to manage their diabetes."

Effective February 1, 2027, the changes will benefit nearly 4,000 Ontarians who apply for insulin pump funding through the Assistive Devices Program each year. The changes include:

Removing the current requirement that applicants use insulin by injection for one year before becoming eligible for ADP-funded insulin pump therapy, enabling eligible patients to access funding immediately.

Changing insulin pump grant renewal requirements from annually to once every two years, making it easier for patients to continue receiving funding while reducing paperwork for clinicians.

Insulin pumps are portable devices that continuously deliver insulin 24 hours a day to help people living with diabetes manage their blood glucose levels. Through the ADP, eligible Ontarians with Type 1 diabetes receive full funding for approved insulin pumps and $2,400 annually for related supplies, reducing financial barriers to accessing this life-saving technology.

These changes will take effect on February 1, 2027, and will support nearly 4,000 Ontarians who apply for insulin pump funding through the ADP each year.

Through Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care, the government is strengthening Ontario's health-care system and helping patients connect to the care and supports they need, when and where they need them.

The Assistive Devices Program helps eligible Ontarians pay for personalized health equipment and supplies.

In 2025-26, the ADP provided approximately $95 million in funding for insulin pumps and related supplies to nearly 24,000 clients.

"Diabetes Canada applauds the Ontario government for eliminating the one-year waiting period for insulin pump access and reducing unnecessary administrative burdens on people living with Type 1 diabetes. This is a lifelong condition, and people living with Type 1 diabetes should not face unnecessary barriers to accessing essential medical devices or onerous paperwork. These common sense changes respect patients, reduce pressures on health care professionals, and represent a meaningful step forward in improving diabetes care in Ontario."

- Laura Syron
President and CEO, Diabetes Canada

University advance new Health Sciences facility in downtown Oshawa

The City of Oshawa and Queen's University are pleased to announce a new collaboration to establish a facility in Oshawa that will serve as home to some of the university's health sciences programs including the Queen's Lakeridge Health MD Family Medicine, and Family Medicine residency programs based in Durham Region.

The new facility will be located at 111-117 King Street East in downtown Oshawa, the former Oshawa Clinic property. The Oshawa Clinic served patients beginning in 1927 and was once Canada's largest medical clinic. Establishing a new health sciences facility at the property builds on its longstanding connection to health care in the community. The location also offers convenient access to Lakeridge Health Oshawa, transit, and other downtown amenities and services.

The new facility will support medical education in Oshawa at a time when access to family physicians continues to be a significant challenge in the community. Approximately 17,000 Oshawa residents, or roughly 1 in every 12 residents, are not currently attached to a family physician.

Queen's University, including its Family Medicine Residency Program, has had a presence throughout Durham Region for more than a decade, with Lakeridge Health Oshawa serving as a major teaching site. That presence expanded in 2023 with the launch of the Queen's-Lakeridge Health MD Family Medicine Program, which welcomes 20 new medical students each year to study and train in Oshawa. As of September 2026, the program has grown to 80 learners. With research showing that where physicians train is an important predictor of where they ultimately practice, the program is building a pipeline of family physicians, where many may stay in the Oshawa and Durham Region.

Queen's University will undertake a multi-year planning and construction process, which includes securing funding for the new facility and providing the City with updates as the project advances. Once completed, the King Street East property will serve as a home for Queen's University and create opportunities for future expansion of medical and other education programs in Durham Region.

To support the establishment of the new facility, the City has made an investment in the project in the amount of $20 million through the acquisition and donation of the 111-117 King Street East property, including the northern portion of the parking lot, as well as costs associated with building intelligence reports and interior demolition.

Approximately 17,000 Oshawa residents, or roughly 1 in every 12 residents, are not currently attached to a family physician.

More than 1,500 babies born in Durham Region are discharged each year without a primary care physician.

Approximately 27 per cent of Durham's family physicians are over age 60 and nearing retirement from clinical practice.

The City adopted an approach similar to York University and in accordance with the Municipal Act, 2001, the $20 million will be financed through the establishment of a new Health Sciences Reserve. The Reserve will be replenished through annual operating budget contributions of $1 million over 20 years beginning in 2027. The estimated tax levy impact is 0.51 per cent.

"Queen's is proud to be working with the City of Oshawa in establishing a site that will serve as a home base for training physicians in the Durham Region. The transfer of the King Street site brings us one step closer to realizing our vision for an integrated clinical and education facility in the area."

– Lisa Tannock, Dean, Health Sciences, Queen's University



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