

Cambridge English for
Nursing

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

UNIT 4 Diabetes care

- a**
- Click on the link below and discuss the following questions in pairs.

<http://www.bestsyndication.com/Articles/2006>

How do you think this equipment is used in the management of diabetes?

How might it be different from other treatment options?

What types of patients might it be useful for?

What type of patients might not be able to use this treatment?

- b**
- Listen to a presentation on the latest developments in diabetes self-management.

What new development is discussed?

🔊 Technology 4

- c**
- Listen again and match the beginnings of the sentences (1–5) to the endings (a–e).

🔊 Technology 4

1 This new treatment for diabetes	a include low blood glucose, dry mouth and chest discomfort.
2 The insulin	b then pump the handle and press a button.
3 Insert a capsule of the insulin into the inhaler	c is taken ten minutes before meals and comes in powdered form
4 The potential side effects	d should have their lungs tested by their doctor first.
5 Diabetics with lung disease or asthma	e is in the form of an insulin inhaler.

- d**
- Read the audioscript and check your answers to Exercise c.

Sylvia: Jim Kerrigan is here today to talk about the latest treatment available for diabetes. Please feel free to ask him any questions.

Jim: Thanks, Sylvia. We're all very excited about this. This new treatment for diabetes is in the form of an insulin inhaler. It's quite a breakthrough in treatment as you can all imagine. The insulin is taken ten minutes before meals and comes in a powdered form. That is extremely exciting as, until now, insulin has only been available in an injectable form. The inhaler is quite a simple device. To use it, you simply insert a capsule of the insulin into the inhaler, then pump the handle and press a button. It's very user-friendly.

Sam: Er, can both type 1 and type 2 diabetics use the inhaler?

Jim: Yes, but type 1 diabetics would still need to take injections of longer-acting insulin to make sure they always have some insulin in their systems. Patients with type 2 diabetes can use the inhaler as an alternative to hypoglycaemic medication or mealtime insulin.

Lizzie: What are the side effects of the inhaler?

Jim: The potential side effects include low blood glucose, dry mouth and chest discomfort.

Sam: So what about diabetics with lung disease or asthma sufferers?

Jim: They should have their lungs tested by their doctor first, of course, but the insulin inhaler is not contraindicated with these sorts of patients.

Sam: Mm, sounds interesting.

Lizzie: Yes, it certainly sounds promising.

Share your knowledge

Discuss the following questions in class or with a colleague and compare your experience.

How do you think these new treatments will change diabetes management?

What other emerging treatments are you familiar with?