



Our Impact 2024

breakthrough1d.org.uk





Cover and inside cover: Ellie, who lives with T1D, and her mum, Tash

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Foreword from our Chief Executive

This year we introduced our new name, a defining moment for us as we embraced a name that truly reflects the heart of our mission and our exclusive focus on the type 1 diabetes (T1D) community. Breakthrough T1D will continue JDRF's journey, accelerating breakthroughs in research and access to treatments, and bringing the T1D community together to help achieve personal breakthroughs.

Sean, who lives with T1D
and his mum Maryam



2024 has been a landmark year in T1D research impact and treatment access. We continued to drive breakthroughs that make everyday life with T1D better, while advancing towards cures. Income has increased by 10% this year thanks to you, our supporters, and mission spend has grown by 12% between financial years.

The Type 1 Diabetes Grand Challenge granted funding of over £2.7 million to six new projects to develop novel insulins and improve the effectiveness of insulin therapy, which could transform the treatment of T1D. The Grand Challenge also awarded £3 million in funding to two projects looking at slowing the destruction of insulin-producing beta cells and the progression of T1D. We made this funding possible through the work we are doing with the Grand Challenge partners, the Steve Morgan Foundation and Diabetes UK, and the incredible generosity of Steve and Sally Morgan.

Through our policy work and continuous campaigning for hybrid closed loop (HCL), we are delighted that HCL will now be offered to 75% of people living with T1D over the next five years in England and Wales. Funding has also been set aside in Scotland to support the rollout of HCL to all children living with T1D and Northern Ireland is also considering introducing HCL treatment.

This year we witnessed participants in the Vertex Pharmaceutical clinical trials making insulin in response to glucose when given islets alongside immunosuppressant drugs. This is a groundbreaking step forward in the development of cure therapies for T1D.

We co-developed and launched Coping with Diabetes, a digital tool to help children and young people with T1D manage their mental health.

I'm personally also proud of how we listen and respond to the needs of people with T1D. When our community reached out to us about the challenges of mental health and T1D among young people we knew we had to act. In partnership with DigiBete, our committed supporters the Pardoe family, and together with the Steve Morgan Foundation, we co-developed and launched Coping with Diabetes, a digital tool to help children and young people with T1D manage their mental health.

We are extremely grateful to you, our supporters. Your generosity and commitment have enabled us to make life-changing breakthroughs happen. With your support, we are changing the lives of people with T1D and are one step closer to cures. Thank you.



Karen Addington

Chief Executive Officer,
Breakthrough T1D UK

Our impact in numbers



£2.4 million

spent on research in the UK from July-June 23/24 across the global organisation



£4.364 million

spent on our mission in the UK from July-June 23/24



500 research programmes

funded by Breakthrough T1D in the UK and internationally in 2024



8.1 million

views of our brand awareness campaign



75%

of people in England and Wales are to be offered HCL over the next four years



55%

of children in England are now on HCL

Our strategy

We stand on the threshold of a new era in type 1 diabetes (T1D) medical research - with cellular treatments providing advances towards cures, and new immunotherapies transforming the opportunity to stop T1D in its tracks.



GOAL 1 –

Driving research to cure, treat and prevent T1D



GOAL 2 –

Accelerating access to T1D treatments and technologies



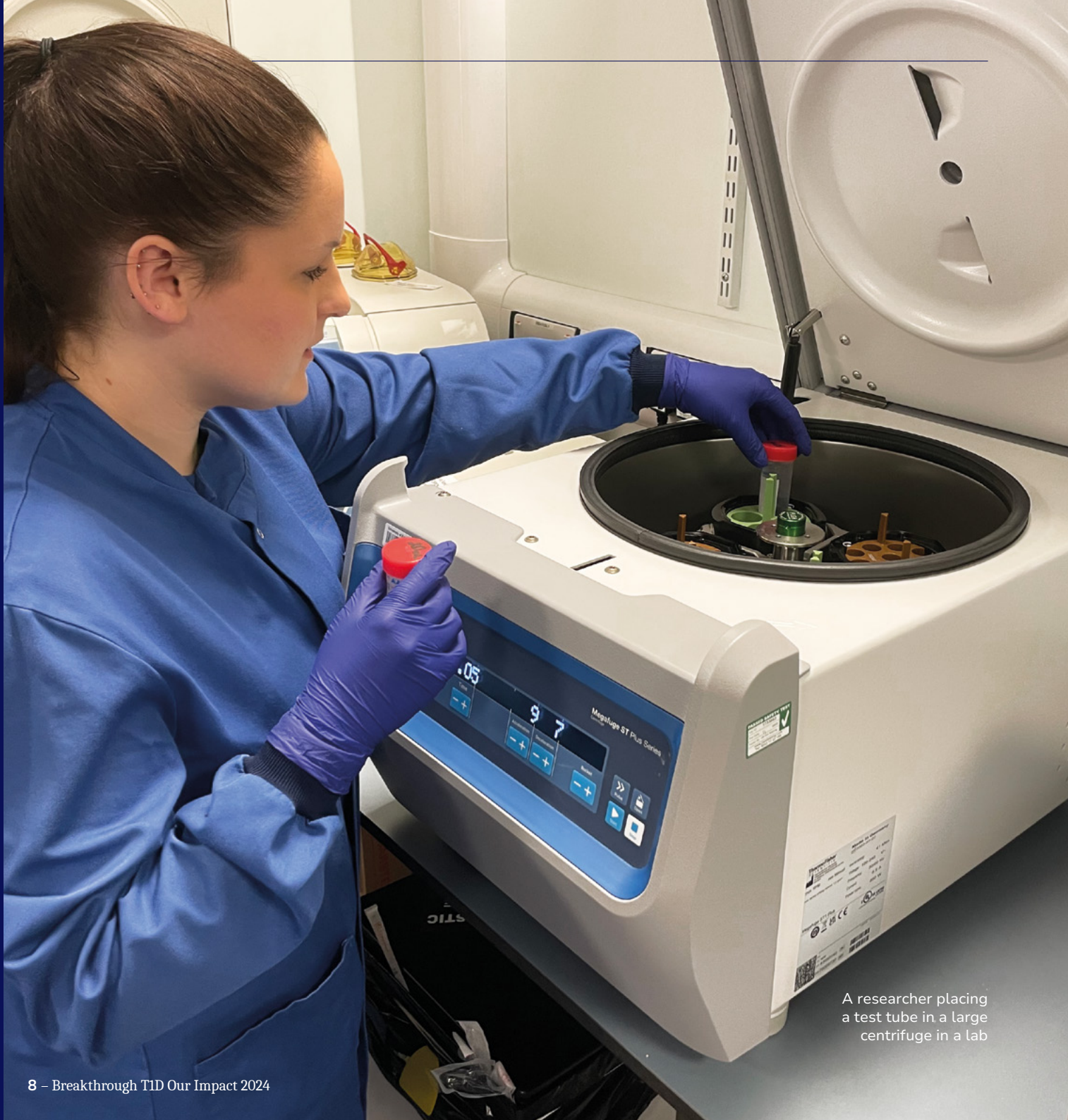
GOAL 3 –

Supporting people living with T1D

“We’re not just aiming to improve treatment. We’re committed to transforming the future of T1D care. We will work closely with people affected to shape the future of research, treatment, and care, creating a world where T1D is no longer a daily struggle, but a condition we can prevent, manage, and ultimately cure.”

Karen Addington,
CEO, Breakthrough T1D UK

In April 2025, we launched a new 10-year strategy to accelerate progress toward curing, treating, and preventing T1D, while enhancing support for those living with the condition today.



A researcher placing a test tube in a large centrifuge in a lab

Driving research to cure, treat and prevent T1D

Throughout 2024, we continued to connect researchers across the globe to turn ideas into life-changing treatments and therapies.

Vertex clinical trial is opening the door to insulin independence

Vertex Pharmaceuticals has been running a clinical trial, where people with T1D are given lab grown stem cell derived islets alongside immunosuppressant drugs. Vertex Pharmaceuticals have reported that 12 people with T1D have now received a full dose of these islets. The transplanted cells were accepted by all 12 participants' bodies and began making insulin in response to glucose within 90 days, with 11 out of the 12 patients needing less insulin

or achieving insulin independence. The therapy also reduced HbA1c levels, eliminated severe hypos and improved time-in-range.

This clinical trial is based on decades of Breakthrough T1D-funded research by Professor Doug Melton. It points the way to a new era for stem cell-based therapies that could cure T1D, with much wider availability than transplants of cells from organ donors.

“These remarkable data add to the growing body of evidence for VX-880 as a potentially curative therapy for T1D.”

Dr Carmen Bozic, Chief Medical Officer at Vertex

The pioneering partnership paving the way for breakthroughs

In 2022, we launched the £50 million Type 1 Diabetes Grand Challenge in partnership with the Steve Morgan Foundation and Diabetes UK. The Grand Challenge is accelerating T1D research in three key areas:

- Replacing the beta cells lost in the immune attack that causes T1D
- Developing more effective and responsive insulins, known as novel insulins
- Investigating the root causes of T1D

We are managing the £20 million allocated to the root causes and novel insulin research projects over the five years of the Grand Challenge.

“With the Steve Morgan Foundation’s financial support, and the expertise of Breakthrough T1D UK and Diabetes UK, the Type 1 Diabetes Grand Challenge is funding the most promising projects led by exceptional scientists to fast-track discoveries that will lead to life-changing new treatments and ultimately a cure for this relentless condition.”

Steve and Sally Morgan,
founders of the Steve Morgan Foundation



Steve and Sally Morgan

T1D Grand Challenge achievements in 2024:

JANUARY 2024

The Root Causes Grand Challenge awarded £3 million to two projects through the Immune Insights for T1D Therapy funding call:

- Dr Danijela Tatovic is investigating whether a combination of two existing immunotherapy drugs can slow the progression of T1D
- Dr James Pearson is working to determine if a new medicine that slows the destruction of insulin-producing beta cells can be more effective if administered at certain times of day

FEBRUARY 2024

Researchers working on novel insulins pitched their ideas to an international expert review panel.

AUGUST 2024

The Grand Challenge granted £2.7 million to six projects focused on developing 'smart' insulins, including glucose-responsive, ultrafast-acting insulins, and combined insulin-glucagon therapies.

NOVEMBER 2024

Professor Eoin McKinney's Grand Challenge project is announced. Professor McKinney will be using a sophisticated AI tool to scour databases and match immune cell changes in T1D with existing drugs that could combat them.

NOVEMBER 2024

The Grand Challenge hosted its first Beta Cell and Root Causes symposium, bringing together researchers and people with T1D to emphasise the importance of collaboration.

“Long-acting smart insulin will significantly enhance the health and quality of life for people with T1D.”

Professor Zhen Gu

Smart insulins set to improve quality of life for people with T1D

Researchers in China, led by Professor Zhen Gu, have developed an innovative oral glucose-responsive insulin.

This insulin works by entering the stomach in “worm-like” molecules, moving to the liver, and forming an inactive reservoir. The smart insulin contains a molecule that detects high levels of glucose and triggers the release of insulin in response. As the insulin is already waiting in the liver, it can reach the glucose in the blood and remove it faster than injections. The aim of this type of insulin will be to reduce the need for multiple daily insulin injections and limit the highs and lows in blood glucose. Supported by the Type 1 Diabetes Grand Challenge, Professor Zhen Gu's team is optimising the insulin for clinical trials.

Breakthrough T1D and Helmsley Trust drive global effort to prevent T1D

On the international stage, Breakthrough T1D and the Helmsley Charitable Trust have announced over £1.5 million in joint funding for five international researchers. This funding will allow the researchers to access unique data sources from the Environmental Determinants of Islet Autoimmunity (ENDIA) study.

The ENDIA study monitors close relatives of people living with T1D, beginning when they are still in the womb, to investigate the intricate relationship between environmental factors and an individual's genes. ENDIA has collected over 200,000 unique biological samples along with 16 million medical observations from 1500 people with a

parent or sibling diagnosed with T1D. The aim of the study is to find out the role these factors play in initiating and influencing the development of T1D.

Accurately estimating who will develop T1D could transform research by enabling earlier detection and helping to stop T1D in its tracks.



A researcher working in a lab in Australia

“ENDIA was the first study of its kind globally. The richness of the data and uniqueness of biological samples collected puts it at the forefront of research in T1D prevention.”

Dr Dorota Pawlak, Chief Scientific Officer, Breakthrough T1D Australia

Over 26,000 children join the ELSA study

The ELSA (Early Surveillance for Autoimmune diabetes) study, which is co-funded by us and Diabetes UK, is screening children aged three to 13 years to find those who are at high risk of developing T1D.

As of December 2024, 26,087 children and their families have signed up. This programme ensures an earlier and safer T1D diagnosis for children and also

enables those identified as developing T1D the opportunity to access clinical trials, testing the newest therapies in preventing or delaying T1D.

Clare and Seth's Story

Clare's eldest son Zach was diagnosed with T1D in 2020 in A&E. Two years later, Clare found out about the ELSA study. Seeing Zach so ill had been incredibly difficult for their family, and they wanted to avoid a similar experience with their other children, so Clare enrolled Zach's siblings, Seth and Orla, in the study.

Within a week, Clare received a phone call from one of the study's doctors. Orla's results came back negative, but Seth tested positive for T1D autoantibodies - biological markers indicating that he was developing T1D. Seth was diagnosed with stage one T1D but does not require insulin treatment yet, this gives him time to process his diagnosis.

“When Zach was diagnosed, it was like a grieving process and learning a whole new life. We’ve already done the grieving process with Seth. When his condition does progress, we know what we’re doing and we’re going to roll with it.”

Clare, Zach and Seth's mum



Seth, who lives with stage one T1D

Transformative breakthroughs redefine early detection of T1D

A new T1D early detection test has been approved in the UK. Led by Professor Richard Oram at the University of Exeter, and funded by us, the test known as a biochip, combines genetic information and an algorithm to calculate a genetic risk score, helping to identify individuals who are at a high risk of developing T1D.

The biochip detects high-risk genes by binding them to its surface, emitting light when matched with DNA from a blood sample. The algorithm then calculates the genetic risk score.

The approval of this test in the UK could

help introduce broad genetic screening for T1D in the UK and across the world. The impact of such screening would change the way that people are diagnosed with T1D. It creates opportunities for early education, intervention and access to clinical trials and new drugs.



A researcher working under a microscope in a lab

“Our new biochip is a pioneering example of how understanding a person’s background genetic risk can help identify those at highest risk, ensuring they have further antibody screening so we can efficiently identify T1D early enough for treatment to be effective.”

Professor Richard Oram

Breakthrough T1D Rumbough Award acknowledges the impact of teplizumab

The Breakthrough T1D David Rumbough Award acknowledges an individual who has made outstanding contributions in the field of T1D that has significantly accelerated our mission.

For over 20 years, Professor Dayan has been a leader in T1D immunotherapy

research. He is leading efforts to bring teplizumab, the first disease-modifying therapy approved by the US Food and Drug Administration to Europe, which would expand treatments options for those newly diagnosed with T1D. Teplizumab is groundbreaking as it can delay the onset of T1D by up to three years.

The life-changing impact of teplizumab

Elan was approached to take part in the PROTECT clinical trial, shortly after she was diagnosed with T1D. As part of the trial, Elan received the drug teplizumab.

Shortly after receiving teplizumab, Elan's insulin to carbohydrate ratio reduced dramatically, helping to keep her blood glucose levels in range 90% of the time for the first two years of living with T1D. As well as the physical benefits of taking teplizumab, being part of the clinical trial massively helped Elan come to terms with her diagnosis. This was partly thanks to teplizumab making her diabetes easier to manage but also because the study gave her so much contact with the clinical trials team, who were incredibly supportive.

It's now been three years since Elan received the first infusion of teplizumab. She is having to think about her T1D a bit more, but the teplizumab is still having a positive effect.

“I definitely want to take part in more T1D research. I've benefitted hugely from receiving teplizumab. I hope more people will get access to this drug soon.” Elan

Elan, who lives with T1D

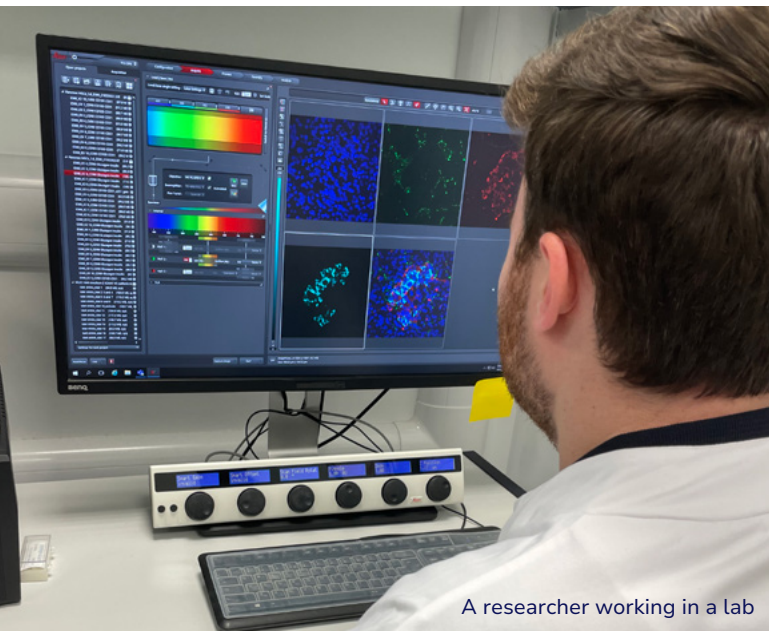


Psoriasis drug offers new pathway for treating T1D

New research finds that ustekinumab, a drug commonly used to treat psoriasis, may help children and adolescents with T1D make insulin for longer.

Led by researchers at Cardiff University and co-funded by us, the clinical trial named USTEKID tested the drug, ustekinumab, in 72 young people who were within 100 days of being diagnosed with T1D. They were given injections of either ustekinumab or a placebo seven times over 44 weeks. After 12 months, the young people who were taking ustekinumab had C-peptide levels – a sign that the body is producing insulin – that were 49% higher than the group who were taking a placebo.

The study showed that ustekinumab reduced the destructive impact of specific immune cells on insulin-making beta cells. Identifying the specific immune cells that cause damage to the insulin-making beta cells could pave the way for precise and targeted therapies to maximise benefits and minimise side effects for people living with T1D.



A researcher working in a lab

“Researchers are now developing ways to slow or halt the immune system attack. If such treatments can be started early, before all the insulin-making cells are lost, this could prevent or reduce the need for insulin.”

Dr Danijela Tatovic, lead researcher



A researcher
pipetting liquid into
a test tube in a lab

Innovative research breakthroughs lead the way to a Nobel Prize

Professor David Baker, a Breakthrough T1D-funded researcher at the University of Washington, has been awarded a Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

Professor Baker's Nobel Prize acknowledges his work in discovering a way to create new proteins that have never existed before. In 2016, we recognised the potential of this and awarded Professor Baker two grants, funding him to use a computer model to create new, glucose-

responsive insulin, which could help relieve the burden of glucose monitoring.

We are proud to be funding some of the very best scientists in the world, who are bringing us closer to making T1D a thing of the past.



Nina, who lives with T1D
and uses HCL technology

Accelerating access to T1D treatments and technologies

We are driving breakthroughs in T1D treatment and care, so people with T1D can live fuller, healthier lives.

This year we:

- Campaigned for access to HCL for the T1D community
- Raised awareness around the choices and range in T1D technology, while identifying key gaps and health inequalities
- Advocated for improved support for individuals living with type 1 diabetes disordered eating (T1DE)

Breakthroughs expand access to hybrid closed loop technology

Over the past 20 years, thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we've been able to invest £115 million in international research and clinical trials to develop hybrid closed loop (HCL).

Our continuous campaigning for HCL has led to the creation of criteria and mandated funding for access to HCL on the NHS:

DECEMBER 2023:

NICE published a technology appraisal recommending HCL as a first line of treatment for the majority of people living with T1D in England and Wales.

JANUARY 2024:

NHS England published its five-year implementation strategy to offer HCL to 75% of people living with T1D in England.

MAY 2024:

NHS funding was set aside in Scotland to support the rollout of HCL to all children living with T1D and expand provision of HCL for adults with T1D.

APRIL 2024:

The Northern Ireland Department of Health confirmed that it was considering introducing HCL treatment.

The impact of HCL will change lives, reducing life threatening hypo and hyperglycaemia, helping people with T1D spend more time in a healthy glucose range and over time reducing the risk of long-term complications such as kidney and cardiovascular failure and sight loss.

“At the end of 2024, 55% of children in England were currently on HCL with the ambition to be 80-85% of children by end of 2025.”

“The majority of children with T1D in England now do not prick their finger on a regular basis or use injections for their insulin for their T1D care.”

Professor Partha Kar, NHS England's National Specialty Advisor for Diabetes

Ellie, who lives with T1D and uses HCL technology





Tara and her daughter
Tahlia, who lives
with T1D

“I’m not checking my phone constantly anymore”

Tahlia was diagnosed with T1D when she was five years old. Tahlia and her mum Tara explain how they are now embracing HCL technology.

“When I had to manage my type 1 in public before HCL, people would look at me and ask what I was doing. Now I can just look at my Apple watch and, unless I’m low and need glucose I don’t have to do anything.” Tahlia

“With Tahlia on the HCL, I’m not checking my phone constantly anymore; I’m sleeping through without one ear open. I find it incredible to watch Tahlia’s levels going up and down and up and down by themselves. The technology is amazing. We’re definitely not going back.” Tara

“It has completely changed my life”

Yasmin was first diagnosed with T1D when she was 11 years old. She found out about the hybrid closed loop pilot through her local hospital's diabetes Facebook group.

“From day one, it was amazing. Before the closed-loop system, every day felt like a battle - nauseating highs, terrifying lows, and the constant fear of getting it wrong. I was exhausted. For the first time, I felt in control rather than being stuck in a relentless cycle. Finally, the rollercoaster has slowed, and I've finally got a bit of my life (and energy) back.” Yasmin



Yasmin, who lives with T1D

The impact of hybrid closed loop

This year, we were so proud to win the 2024 Third Sector Big Impact Award with Diabetes UK for our work to fund the research and secure NHS delivery of hybrid closed loop. Winning this award is a huge achievement and highlights how transformative HCL treatments will be for people living with T1D.

We were also delighted to have been awarded the HTN Health Technology Solution of the Year Award for hybrid closed loop, in a joint submission with Diabetes UK and NHS England, and the 2024 Charity Awards Best Health and Medical Research Award.

These awards recognise the outstanding impact and effectiveness of our work and our continued effort to cure, treat and prevent T1D.



Hybrid closed loop (HCL)



Hilary Nathan,
Director of Policy and
Communications,
Breakthrough
T1D UK

Breaking down barriers to T1D technology

In our new report titled, [Access For All: The impact of technology on the lives of people with type 1 diabetes](#), we explore how people with T1D and their families use technology and the impact it has on their lives. To achieve this, we conducted robust quantitative and qualitative market research, gathering insights from 557 participants.

The findings of the report explain that most people know about insulin injections, pumps, and glucose monitors, but only 25% have heard of HCL. Many people try T1D technology because healthcare professionals recommend it, or they're encouraged to by friends and family who've used it. Those using the tech say it helps with blood glucose management and makes them feel happier and less anxious, especially with HCL. There's also a lot of interest in future treatments, but many are hesitant. Nevertheless, there's still a long way to go, with barriers including limited access to technology on the NHS, complicated devices, and device appearance.

Based on the findings of the report, we recommend increasing awareness of HCL, ensuring those who could benefit can get access to the devices they need, and providing comprehensive training for healthcare professionals. We also call for a national diabetes registry, an early detection programme for T1D, and ongoing support for those testing positive for biological markers. Additionally, we urge for the approval of drugs delaying T1D

by NICE, better patient education on new therapies, and increased awareness of clinical trials.

We're committed to ensuring that no one living with T1D is left behind. Using the findings of the report, we're working with the NHS, Parliamentarians, other charities, and industry stakeholders to address systemic issues across the UK to ensure fair and equitable access to existing and emerging treatments for everyone with T1D.



Only 25%

of people polled had heard of HCL



Sophia, who lives with T1D, with her mum, dad, and brother.

“We need to make sure that everyone has access to the best technology available. That’s why we’ve carried out this market research — so we can better understand people’s experiences with diabetes tech and work to improve access for everyone.”

Karen Addington, CEO, Breakthrough T1D UK

Enhancing support for people living with T1DE

In January, we launched the Parliamentary Inquiry report into type 1 diabetes and disordered eating (T1DE) chaired by then MPs Sir George Howarth and the Rt Hon. the Baroness May of Maidenhead.

The Inquiry was the first of its kind to assess the causes and incidence of T1DE, the gaps in research, diagnosis, clinical practice and the impact on people living with T1DE. The Inquiry's key recommendations include the formation of an international consensus on T1DE diagnosis, building a UK data registry to track incidence and outcomes of T1DE, funding for integrated care pilots and the establishment of a comprehensive prevention programme.

As a result of the Inquiry, we are now working on building cross-sector consensus to support the implementation of these recommendations. Progress is already being made with NHS Scotland updating its guidance on T1DE, using the information stated within the Inquiry and the NHS confirming that funding for the five pilots has been extended for a year.



Seun, who lives with T1D, and his partner

“It’s so important to raise awareness of T1DE to mobilise those who have the power to support and invest in treatment and research into the condition. It’s hard to be diabetic, and it’s hard to have an eating disorder. But it’s even harder to have both, to have T1DE.”

Ariella, a person with lived experience of T1DE

Groundbreaking guidance defines a new approach to supporting people with early-stage T1D

New international guidance driven by us and endorsed by key diabetes organisations has established how adults, children, and pregnant people, diagnosed 'at risk' of or with early-stage T1D, should be supported.

This new guidance provides a roadmap for the NHS to structure the care, support and treatment choices for people diagnosed

with early stage T1D, reducing the risk of DKA and taking into consideration when to start insulin treatment.



Sophia, who lives with T1D and Rufus the Bear

“This international guidance is a vital step towards supporting those at risk or in the early stages of T1D. There is overwhelming evidence that detecting the condition in its earliest stages leads to better health outcomes and reduced costs for healthcare systems.”

Hilary Nathan, Director of Policy and Communications, Breakthrough T1D UK

Ruby and Conal, who both live with T1D



Supporting people living with T1D

In 2024, we collaborated with DigiBete to help children and young people thrive with T1D; launching an interactive mental health support tool and developing a training platform for schools, enabling teachers to better support students with T1D. Through our Discovery Days, we connected with families affected by T1D and newly diagnosed individuals, ensuring no one faces this journey alone.

Ensuring young people live well with T1D

Two-thirds of young people with T1D experience feeling overwhelmed or frustrated with the condition, this is known as diabetes distress and can impact mental and physical health.

So, we innovated. Together with our partners DigiBete, young people and specialist diabetes psychologists we developed Coping with Diabetes, a new interactive support tool to help children and young people with T1D look after their mental health and wellbeing. By completing evidence-based psychological interactive activities, seeing the experience of others and learning about T1D, children between the ages of 10 and 14 build their knowledge in how to manage the psychological aspects

of T1D, increasing their confidence and self-esteem to live happier and healthier lives with T1D.

Thanks to the Steve Morgan Foundation, we now have funding to adapt Coping with Diabetes for young people up to the age of 25 and a separate support tool for parents.



Over 700 people
used the app in the first three months



This initiative has been made possible by the generous support of founding Accelerator Programme members the Pardoe family, who funded phase one of the development, and the Steve Morgan Foundation who have funded phase two.

Joe, who lives with T1D, and his partner



“Families and researchers told us about the significant mental health challenges that children with T1D are experiencing. We knew we had to take action. That’s why we’re so proud of Coping with Diabetes. We innovated, in partnership with young people, NHS experts, our supporters and funders to deliver a digital first service that addresses a real and critical need.”

Hilary Nathan, Director of Policy and Communications, Breakthrough T1D UK

“This vital piece of work is founded on a real need articulated by young people who often struggle with the complexities of living with type 1 diabetes. This tool provides very practical emotional support with strategies that are specifically targeted for young people living with diabetes.”

Maddie Julian, Co-founder of DigiBete

“I really like the tool, particularly the different topics, as I feel they cover all aspects of living with diabetes.”

A young person who has used the support tool

Our commitment to T1D education

We have collaborated with DigiBete, Leeds Children's Hospital Diabetes Team, the National Children and Young People's Diabetes Network, and Diabetes UK Together Type 1 to create the Type 1 Diabetes Schools and Training Community Platform. This innovative digital educational platform is designed to prepare teachers and school staff with the knowledge and tools needed to support pupils with T1D.

“The training course was great! I feel all staff in school should do this course to learn about T1D and how all school staff can support a child.”

School staff member

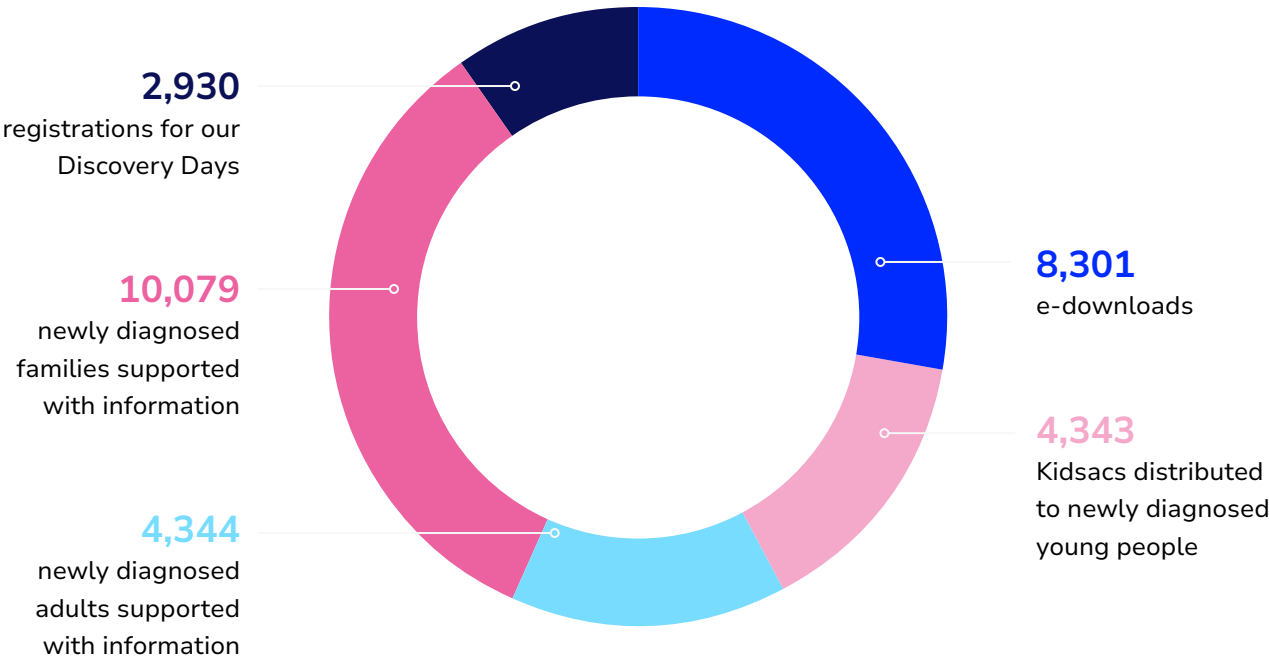


7,600

courses completed since the training platform launched in Autumn 2024

From the moment you first hear the words ‘type 1 diabetes’, we’re here for you

No one should face T1D alone. Throughout 2024, we continued to support and bring together people living with T1D through our community events and by providing information to help people living with T1D.



8 Discovery Days

held throughout the UK



20,493 people

accessed the schools e-learning module

“I felt for the first time since being diagnosed that I was part of a community and not going it alone.”

Derry Discovery Day attendee

“Rufus just arrived for my daughter. She is pretending to give him prick tests and jabs on his ‘patches’. He is helping her come to terms with her diabetes in a way that is just not possible otherwise. Thank you.”

Louise, parent of a child with T1D



Sarah, Community
Events Officer,
Breakthrough T1D UK

Bringing the community together to advance breakthroughs

Our volunteers play a huge role in helping us bring breakthroughs to the community and support people living with or affected by T1D.

In 2024, we were supported by over 500 volunteers, including 127 youth ambassadors and 230 insight and experience panel members. Our board directors and scientific advisors are also an integral part of our team.

- Our event crew volunteers helped us welcome 1,981 participants at our One Walk events, and 250 guests to the Sugarplum Dinner
- Our youth ambassadors told us what breakthroughs in T1D would mean to them for a video shared on our social media channels
- Our insight and experience panel members shared their experiences of using wearable technology to manage T1D. They contributed to the NHS Language Matters policy around pregnancy and diabetes, and participated in a study investigating the use of artificial intelligence for diabetes eye care

“The youth ambassador programme has been life-changing for me. I was fortunate enough to attend Children’s Congress in 2023 and that experience is something that I will cherish forever.”

Martha, Youth Ambassador, Breakthrough T1D UK

Martha, Youth Ambassador, Breakthrough T1D UK



“Volunteering has strengthened my connection to the T1D community”

Rita started volunteering with us to learn more about T1D.

“Through my volunteering experience, I’ve gained invaluable knowledge and confidence to support my daughter better. I feel fulfilled, knowing that I am contributing to the search for a cure, and I am exemplifying the value of giving back to my daughter in the process. Volunteering has not only empowered me but also strengthened my connection to the T1D community.” Rita



Rita, Volunteer, Breakthrough T1D UK

Community connectors

Our community connectors are an essential part of our volunteering team. They work closely with our community engagement team to support people with T1D to live well and have the skills, knowledge and confidence to manage the condition.

“I have enjoyed volunteering with Breakthrough T1D as it has given me the opportunity to meet other people who also have an interest in supporting others with T1D.”

Community connector

Manisha, who lives with
T1D and her husband Matt



Our fundraising activity and campaigns

In 2024, we set out to raise awareness and increase understanding of T1D both within the T1D community and beyond – and we made it happen. From our powerful film ‘What a cure feels like’, which surpassed 1.4 million views globally, to our incredible events that united the T1D community and raised vital funds, together we made an impact.

We are Breakthrough T1D

In October 2024, we officially became Breakthrough T1D.

As Breakthrough T1D, we’re elevating the incredible work we accomplished as JDRF,

to achieve even greater impact. We’re on a mission to continue accelerating groundbreaking research, expanding access to life-changing treatments, and uniting the T1D community.

“The name, Breakthrough T1D, is really inspiring because it encourages people with T1D to know that they can overcome their daily battles.”

One Walk participant

What a cure feels like

Our film captures the relentless nature of T1D and envisions the sense of peace a cure could bring to those living with the condition.

We were thrilled to introduce our new brand film 'What a cure feels like', a campaign designed to engage new audiences and raise awareness. The film

reflects the daily realities of living with T1D, illustrating the transformative impact that a cure would have on the lives of those affected.

“What a powerful feeling it is to feel seen. Thank you for making this.”

Instagram comment

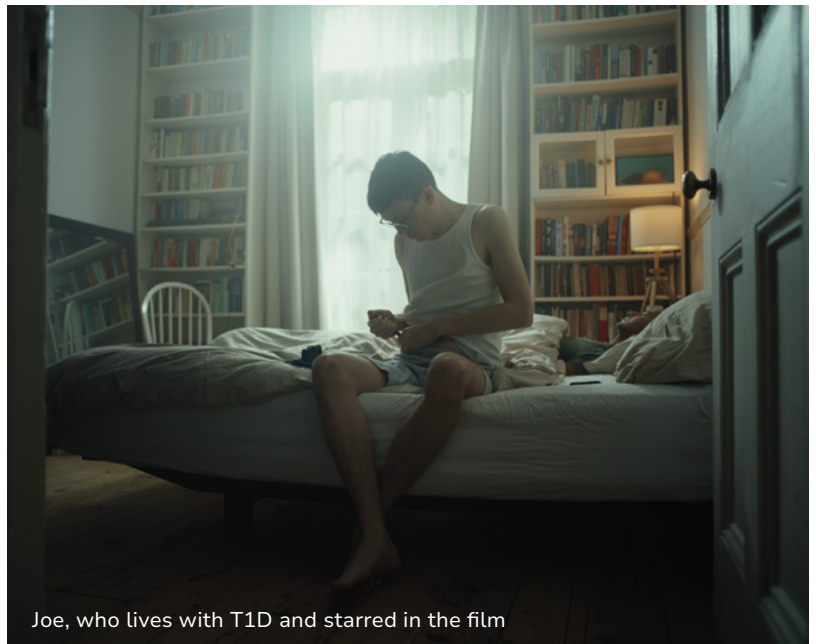
“The best video I’ve seen to represent a chronic illness that so many live with yet so many don’t understand. Thank you for making this so very accurate.”

Instagram comment

35 people with T1D were involved in making the film

Globally, the film was watched 1.4 million times

Our campaign ads were viewed 8.1 million times



Joe, who lives with T1D and starred in the film

Breakthrough T1D in the media

Securing national media coverage has increased awareness of T1D, the advances in research and treatments, challenged stigma and evidences our impact to people living with T1D and stakeholders.

Our T1DE Parliamentary Inquiry gained extensive national media coverage. Hilary Nathan, our Director of Policy and Communications and Ariella Thompson, who has experience of living with T1DE, were interviewed live on the BBC Breakfast red sofa. As part of this coverage on BBC Breakfast, we also supported the filming of a package featuring separate interviews with Sir George Howarth and the Davidsons, who lost their daughters to T1DE.

We also arranged for Baroness May to be interviewed for Radio 4's Today Programme, as well as Lawrence Smith, who has lived experience of T1DE. Lawrence also appeared on BBC Scotland, talking about the significance of the report and how we support people living with T1DE.



As part of Diabetes Awareness Week, our Head of Community Engagement, Dan Farrow, appeared on Newsround, alongside Breakthrough T1D supporters, Tara and Tahlia. Together, they spoke about T1D and how it's managed, including the benefits of HCL technology and the impact that it's had on Tahlia's life.

Our celebrity supporter, actor James Norton, who lives with T1D appeared on CBeebies Bedtime Stories.

James read the book, 'How to Manage a Mammoth' by Dr Rose Stewart, and then joined us for a live Q&A on our Instagram channel, alongside Hilary Nathan.

James' feature on CBeebies helped raise awareness of the emotional burdens faced by young families dealing with T1D.



James Norton on CBeebies
Bedtime Stories holding
Rufus the Bear

The Guardian, Daily Mail, The Sun, The Mirror and Daily Express covered the novel insulin £2.7 million funding announcement from the Type 1 Diabetes Grand Challenge. Rachel Connor, our Director of Research Partnerships, also did live interviews on the BBC News Channel, Sky News Morning Show, BBC Radio 4's Today Programme and BBC Radio 5 Live talking about the Grand Challenge novel insulin projects.

Philanthropy

We want to say thank you to our Patrons and members of our Accelerator Programme.

The targeted philanthropic investment from our Patrons and Accelerator Programme members, in high-quality,

impactful research, is at the forefront of a global movement to improve, transform, and eradicate T1D.



“We take great comfort in the feeling that we are together on the journey to ultimately find cures. We are proud of the part we play, as Patrons investing in the work of Breakthrough T1D to help make continual advancements possible.”

Tom and Fiona, Patrons' Club members

Corporate partners

We deeply appreciate the generous funding and support provided by our corporate partners and extend our gratitude for their ongoing commitment.

Our strong partnerships have accelerated breakthroughs, helping more people with T1D live fuller, healthier lives.

This year, Dexcom was our exclusive gold

sponsor of One Walks. Thank you Dexcom for your support and sponsorship that enables us to make a real difference for people living with T1D.



Breakthrough T1D One Walk

“These fantastic events were a great opportunity for us to connect with the diabetes community and share our passion for empowering health and the life-changing impact that technology can have. It was great to see the community come together, and we loved seeing some of our Dexcom Warriors lead the warm-ups ahead of the walks!”

Caroline Chivers, Marketing Director, Dexcom

Trusts and foundations

We are truly grateful to every trust and foundation that generously supports our mission, enabling us to make a lasting impact in the lives of people living with T1D.

Together, we are driving vital research breakthroughs, improving daily life with

T1D, and bringing hope for a future free from the condition and its complications.

“The Michael Lewis Foundation is proud to support Breakthrough T1D and their Discovery Days, which bring people together to share knowledge, support, and hope. Michael never let his T1D hold him back, and we want everyone affected by the condition to have the tools they need to live life to the fullest. By supporting these events, we celebrate Michael’s legacy and help others navigate the challenges of T1D with confidence and resilience.”

Cheryl Lewis, Trustee, Michael Lewis Foundation

Breakthrough T1D Discovery Days



Uniting as a community to unlock new possibilities for people facing T1D

We are very grateful to every single person who took part in one of our fundraising events this year. Every pound you raise helps us to continue to make life-changing breakthroughs and brings us closer to a world free from T1D.

Number of people who took part in our fundraising events: **2,825**



One Walk

- Amount raised: **£261,500**
- Number of participants: **2,000**



London Marathon

- Amount raised: **£630,000**
- Number of participants: **201**



“Absolutely incredible day at One Walk with so many inspiring and hardworking individuals coming together to raise funds for people with T1D. I feel proud and honoured to be part of it.” **Participant** at One Walk Belfast



A group of Breakthrough T1D supporters

400K steps challenge and Wear It ONEderful for World Diabetes Day

- Amount raised: **£30,000**
- Number of participants: **180**



The Sugarplum Ball

- Amount raised on the night: **Over £250,000**



The Swinging Ball 2.0

- Amount raised on the night: **£330,000**



DIY events

- 68 schools, 236 individuals and 47 clubs/organisations fundraised for us in 2024 and raised a total of **£315,030**



Making a difference

- More than **1,000** people played our lottery
- Almost **10,000** people donated to Breakthrough T1D this year
- More than **440** people donated to our Big Give Christmas appeal, raising **£125,888**



Breakthrough T1D One Walk London

You make it possible

“2024 has been a transformative year for T1D – defined by groundbreaking research, greater access to life-changing HCL technology, and becoming Breakthrough T1D.

None of this would have been possible without you, our supporters. Your generosity, dedication and belief in our mission have propelled us forward, breaking barriers and bringing us one step closer to a cure for T1D. Thank you, we couldn't do it without you.”

Terence Lovell, Fundraising and Engagement Director, Breakthrough T1D UK



Matt, Manisha, Sean and Maryam

We are Breakthrough T1D the leading global type 1 diabetes (T1D) research and advocacy charity, we help make everyday life with T1D better while driving toward cures. Today, we are opening doors that were once closed by T1D diagnosis. We do this by connecting the brightest minds and investing in the most promising research, campaigning for access to treatments and technology and supporting the T1D community. Tomorrow, we will make this condition a thing of the past.

We work with a range of dedicated corporate partners, trusts, foundations and philanthropists, and offer multiple opportunities to get involved in supporting T1D research. To find out how you can get involved, please contact us at: info@breakthrough1d.org.uk

breakthrough1d.org.uk



Contact details

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