



Investing in a life more beautifully ordinary

Three research portfolios to speed up
changing daily life with type 1 diabetes

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“I want to be able to pick up my twins from school and not find the first thing coming out of my mouth is

“Hello you, are you ok? Did you have any hypos today?”

I want to ask about their spelling test, if they won at rounders, what the new teacher's like...”

”

Beautifully Ordinary

What would the best thing be about a more ordinary life?

We all know that type 1 diabetes (T1D) makes the most ordinary things in life into a big, difficult deal. Letting an excited child go on a sleepover can be a frightening thought. Fitting in at secondary school is harder than it should be. That first date means consulting a book for carbs and portion advice and talking about T1D for half the evening. Waving a teenager off at freshers' week at university becomes a heart-thumping prospect. Researching holidays has to consider how good local

hospitals are. Starting a new job comes with an extra level of nerves: 'what if I have a hypo on my first day?'

T1D sucks up energy and headspace. We must bring the day forward when daily life can be beautifully ordinary again. And that is going to mean speeding up the pace of research and clinical trials.

Our Accelerator Programme will do this.

Three research portfolios for your consideration

The Accelerator Programme is a way of approaching T1D research and supporting our groundbreaking, international research programme, which has been consistently involved in the developments and breakthroughs that are improving lives and curing T1D since 1970.

By investing in one of three strands of research, with upwards of £25,000 p.a. for four years, you can now have more impact than supporting just a single project.

The Improve Portfolio is low risk and should, within one to five years, make current technologies for managing T1D, or which are arriving soon, much better, and available on the NHS.

The Transform Portfolio

is medium risk but should, within five to 15 years, bring a paradigm shift in how people live with T1D in daily life. Some of this research is already in clinical trials, but it needs a boost now in order to get it over the finish line and into people's lives more quickly.

The Eradicate Portfolio is higher risk, and we need to come at it from many directions, with some areas of discovery only just being revealed now. But in the longer term, it will stop T1D. Cure it. So, you never have to think about it again.

How will investing in the Accelerator Programme bring forward change?

Research is, by its very exciting nature, an exploration. In our hands though, it is one with a

clear direction and anticipated well-defined milestones on the way to a cure.

Imagine an already good road, transformed into a three-lane superfast motorway. This is what the Accelerator Programme will do for finding solutions to T1D. It will deliver more life-changing improvements in people's lives faster.

First, it will enable us to act as a 'fund manager' of your investment in a whole portfolio, turning the heat up under projects that are yielding strong results. This will include getting more solutions into clinical trials and approved by the NHS.

Secondly, this model will enable us to fund, not just these core research projects, but also extra initiatives we haven't been able to fund before, that will enhance and magnify the power of our research strategy.

Tell me more

The following pages outline the three portfolios for your consideration. We'd appreciate hearing what you think about this new model for supporting research. And we can of course provide you with a more detailed proposal for any aspect about which you would like to know more.

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“I don’t want to be thinking at work about my son feeling he has to go and hide in the toilet at school to test and inject.

I want to think of him finding his feet on the rugby pitch and feeling confident...”

”

The Improve Portfolio

The ways we have right now for managing T1D - or which are almost ready – could be made available more quickly if you invest across this low-risk portfolio.

How we invest your money

Bringing innovations to clinical care

The pace of T1D research has never been faster, with more products in clinical trials supported by Breakthrough T1D than ever before. Whether it is new devices to reduce the burden of managing T1D with insulin, or drugs that can make life with T1D safer in

the short and long-term, or even new guidance to make exercising with T1D less daunting; developments that can improve life with T1D are coming thick and fast. With continued, secure funding we can build the evidence to enable regulators, policy makers, and health care teams to bring these innovations into the lives of people with T1D throughout the UK.

Initiatives to enhance and magnify the whole portfolio:

- The ability to support data gathering for the UK's regulatory and reimbursement bodies and engage with them about the difference new treatments could make on the lives of people with T1D
- To bring in new expertise to Breakthrough T1D to drive our patient access programme, speeding up getting new ways of managing T1D into everyday life

Timeline: One to five years

For parents living this every night, it's hard not to feel left behind when you hear about game-changing technology – knowing it could ease the burden but isn't yet within reach. Now our opportunity is to move life-changing care from the lab bench to the bathroom cabinet.

"I'm always saying, 'Have you tested, have you tested?'" I test the twins before we go to bed. If someone's low, I give them jelly babies and then set my alarm for two hours' time to get up and check if it's worked. It's a familiar exhausting story to any parent of a young child with T1D."

From extraordinary to beautifully ordinary. By investing in the Improve Portfolio, you can spearhead all of this.

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“I want to be able to wave my daughter off on a gap year, without having sleepless nights that she’s having a massive hypo up a mountain in India.

I just want to worry about the normal stuff – losing her passport, getting her bag stolen.”

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The Transform Portfolio

Invest across the medium-risk projects within this portfolio to bring a paradigm shift in the daily lives of families living with T1D within the next five to 15 years. While T1D will still be there, you'll hardly have to think about it.

How we invest your money

Measuring what matters, unlock a more personalised approach

We want to reach the day when clinicians can personalise treatment in real time. Every person with T1D is different. How well remaining beta cells work, how quickly they're lost, and how they respond to treatments – none of it follows a neat timeline. Imagine being able to walk into a GP surgery or diabetes clinic and, with a simple finger-prick test, instantly understand whether the pancreas is still making insulin at all – and how much.

No waiting. No guessing. Just the best possible decisions made with the best possible data.

Reimagine blood glucose control. Imagine an insulin that turns on when it is needed and off when it isn't. That's the promise of smart insulin technology. By investing in bold, smart research like this, we're not just funding lab experiments – we're accelerating real change. Together, we can bring forward the day when managing T1D is no longer exhausting or extraordinary – but beautifully ordinary.

Spot it before it starts

Investing in early detection to delay T1D

What if you could see T1D coming before it strikes? For many people, their first experience with T1D is a terrifying trip to A&E and a crash course in insulin injections, carb counting and life-altering responsibility. But T1D doesn't begin the day of diagnosis. The immune system starts attacking insulin-producing cells months – or even years – before symptoms appear. With early detection, we can catch this process in its tracks. By identifying people at high risk of developing T1D through simple blood tests, we can begin to monitor, support, and intervene – sometimes delaying the condition for years.

Initiatives to enhance and magnify the whole portfolio:

- Small conferences to cut across research silos and create 'lightbulb moments' among scientists who work in different but related areas
- Innovation awards to support the lift-off of some clever new ideas, funding researchers to get enough data to see if their idea is promising enough to pursue further
- Industry grants to boost our success in encouraging biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies to prioritise T1D opportunities for further big investment

Timeline: Five to 15 years

Imagine not worrying about hypos and complications

“On numerous occasions I couldn't get through to my daughter after a message saying she'd had a major hypo at university. I worried she'd become unconscious and had to get the porters to break into her room. Glucose responsive insulin would be amazing because it would allow for really tight blood glucose control even when life is a bit chaotic and hormones and emotions are going up and down.”

Invest in the Transform Portfolio and your contribution can also hasten getting more transformative ideas into clinical trials and out into people's lives to end hypos and complications forever.

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“I want to throw away
all the gadgets.

For counting.
Dosing.
Keeping me alive.

And just get back to a
beautifully ordinary life.”

”

The Eradicate Portfolio

Throw away the gadgets and drugs and get back to normality. No more T1D, no more fear, no more medicine, no more anything. Just the beauty of a life without T1D in it at all. That's the aim of the higher risk Eradicate Portfolio.

How we invest your money

Getting people with T1D producing their own insulin again

This is at the core of our mission. It is what we were set up to do and what we will achieve. And it's quite simple: with more money, we will get there faster.

By pushing faster to bring forward cell therapies that enable people with T1D to make their own insulin again, a future without having to think about T1D becomes possible. While we can now grow human cells that make insulin in large quantities in the lab, there is still much to do to make implanting these cells into the body safe and effective for most people with T1D. With early clinical trials of lab-grown insulin producing cells already underway, there has never been a more exciting time for research that could deliver true biological cures for T1D.

Stopping T1D ever starting in anyone at risk

By investing in the Eradicate Portfolio you would be supporting immunotherapy research aimed at 'retraining' the immune system to halt T1D in its tracks.

You would also be supporting trials tracking large populations of people with T1D, revealing more about the triggers of the condition and gathering samples to create a vast data resource for researchers in search of answers about T1D risk and development.

Support the Eradicate Portfolio, and you will be standing shoulder to shoulder with teams uncovering what causes T1D; working to stop people from ever needing insulin and ultimately finding ways to return those living with T1D to a life more beautifully ordinary again.

Initiatives to enhance and magnify the whole portfolio:

- T1D research is surging forward. But we have to invest in the next generation of researchers to make sure that there will be a scientific workforce specialising in T1D to take it forward to its conclusion: cure and prevention
- Investors in the Eradicate Portfolio will be supporting clinical training fellowships, early investigator awards, and awards that sustain long careers in T1D research for the best and brightest scientists and clinicians

Timeline: 10 years +

Bring forward the day you can throw away the ping pong ball

"Life with type 1 is like trying to walk round all day holding a ping pong ball in the flat of your hand and not dropping it. You're always trying to manage the numbers for your glucose and your insulin! The idea of running into complications later on and losing my eyesight because of type 1 scares the hell out of me. But Breakthrough T1D has given me a lot of positivity and hope."

Invest in the Eradicate Portfolio, and your contribution will help by improving the way we identify those at risk of T1D, developing immunotherapies that change the behaviour of the immune system, and getting the body to regrow or replace beta cells.

The personal made global

Investing in the Accelerator Programme will help change daily life with T1D – faster

Improvements to today's ways of managing T1D will come within the next one to five years. Transformational new ways of taking care of it, which require little effort, should come in the next five to 15 years. And cutting-edge research being done now is bringing a world without T1D even closer.

That's if the investment in this work is put in now, over the next four or five years, allowing us to fund more of the work we need to do than we can afford to right now.

It's quite startling when you think about what that means.

A boy with T1D who is eight now could be going off on a gap year at 18 with nothing more to keep him well in his backpack than a pill a day, prescribed by his GP.

A young woman who can no longer drive because she can't feel hypos coming on, could be hypo-free by the time she's 35, dropping her child at school on her way to work.



To learn more about Breakthrough T1D UK's Accelerator Programme and have a confidential discussion about how you can get involved, contact the Philanthropy Team:

Call:

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We are Breakthrough T1D the leading global type 1 diabetes (T1D) research and advocacy charity. Together we're driving breakthroughs towards a world where no one lives with T1D. Until then, we help make everyday life better for the people who face it.

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