

# Insulin and associated devices: access for everybody

## **WHO stakeholder workshop**

21 and 23–25 September 2020



World Health  
Organization



# Insulin and associated devices: access for everybody

## **WHO stakeholder workshop**

21 and 23–25 September 2020

Insulin and associated devices: access for everybody. WHO stakeholder workshop, 21 and 23–25 September 2020

ISBN 978-92-4-001518-0 (electronic version)

ISBN 978-92-4-001519-7 (print version)

© World Health Organization, 2020

Some rights reserved. This work is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 IGO licence (CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO; <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/igo>).

Under the terms of this licence, you may copy, redistribute and adapt the work for non-commercial purposes, provided the work is appropriately cited, as indicated below. In any use of this work, there should be no suggestion that WHO endorses any specific organization, products or services. The use of the WHO logo is not permitted. If you adapt the work, then you must license your work under the same or equivalent Creative Commons licence. If you create a translation of this work, you should add the following disclaimer along with the suggested citation: “This translation was not created by the World Health Organization (WHO). WHO is not responsible for the content or accuracy of this translation. The original English edition shall be the binding and authentic edition”.

Any mediation relating to disputes arising under the licence shall be conducted in accordance with the mediation rules of the World Intellectual Property Organization.

**Suggested citation.** Insulin and associated devices: access for everybody. WHO stakeholder workshop, 21 and 23–25 September 2020. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2020. Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.

**Cataloguing-in-Publication (CIP) data.** CIP data are available at <http://apps.who.int/iris>.

**Sales, rights and licensing.** To purchase WHO publications, see <http://apps.who.int/bookorders>. To submit requests for commercial use and queries on rights and licensing, see <http://www.who.int/about/licensing>.

**Third-party materials.** If you wish to reuse material from this work that is attributed to a third party, such as tables, figures or images, it is your responsibility to determine whether permission is needed for that reuse and to obtain permission from the copyright holder. The risk of claims resulting from infringement of any third-party-owned component in the work rests solely with the user.

**General disclaimers.** The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of WHO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

The mention of specific companies or of certain manufacturers' products does not imply that they are endorsed or recommended by WHO in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned. Errors and omissions excepted, the names of proprietary products are distinguished by initial capital letters.

All reasonable precautions have been taken by WHO to verify the information contained in this publication. However, the published material is being distributed without warranty of any kind, either expressed or implied. The responsibility for the interpretation and use of the material lies with the reader. In no event shall WHO be liable for damages arising from its use.

This publication contains the collective views of an international group of experts and does not necessarily represent the decisions or the policies of WHO.

Cover photo: © WHO / Tania Habjouqa

Design and layout by L'IV Com Sàrl

Printed in Switzerland

# Contents

Acknowledgements	iv
Overview	1
Workshop highlights	3
5 Key global challenges identified	3
Opportunities for improving access	6
Co-design for Change: Rewriting the Insulin Story	8
Towards a strategic framework	8
Annex 1. Organizers and facilitators	10
Annex 2. Agenda	11
Annex 3. List of speakers and panellists	13
Annex 4. Presentations	15
Annex 5. Fact sheets and background documents	17



# Acknowledgements

This meeting was made possible through a collaboration between the Access to Medicines and Health Products Division and the Communicable and Noncommunicable Diseases Division of the World Health Organization (Annex 1). WHO would like to offer particular thanks to the speakers and panellists who provided rich contributions to the workshop sessions.



# Overview

## Why this workshop

Diabetes is the seventh leading cause of death globally and a major cause of costly and debilitating complications such as heart attacks, strokes, kidney failure, blindness and lower limb amputations. There are more than 420 million people living with diabetes and this number is estimated to rise to 570 million by 2030 and to 700 million by 2045.

People with type 1 diabetes need insulin for survival while people with type 2 diabetes need insulin for controlling blood glucose levels to avoid complications when oral medicines become less effective in the progressive course of the illness. Only about half of people with type 2 diabetes in need of insulin can access it.

Lack of access to insulin is largely due to high prices and supply challenges. Insulin originator companies control 96% of the global market, setting prices that are prohibitive for many countries. Access to delivery devices for insulin and basic technologies such as blood glucose testing is also limited. Without access to health products for screening, diagnosis, and treatment and control and to health professionals trained in managing diabetes, premature mortality due to diabetes cannot be reduced.

World Health Organization (WHO) Member States recognized prevention, screening, early diagnosis and appropriate treatment of diabetes and other noncommunicable diseases as a priority in 2000, following a call for action by the Fifty-third World Health Assembly. However, over the last two decades WHO has had to report to the World Health Assembly that there is not enough progress in countries in meeting the health-care needs of people living with diabetes.

During the current COVID-19 pandemic, many people who need treatment for diabetes are not receiving the health services and medicines they need. People with diabetes are at increased risk of severe disease and death from COVID-19. Immediate action to correct this is needed as part of the COVID-19 response.

Improving access to insulin and other health products for diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of diabetes is complex, and interventions require collaboration for greater impact at country level.

### A call for a collective response

If we want different results, we have to do things differently. Today's workshop is a bold step to influence the imbalance in access to insulin in low-income countries. This is the moment for the international community to heed the current wake-up call, and move ahead with a collective response in unity and solidarity.

REN MINGHUI

WHO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL FOR UHC/COMMUNICABLE AND  
NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES

### Insulin is a question of survival

Insulin is a life-saving treatment that has been known for 100 years and it should be available in countries. Urgent actions are needed for improved access to diabetes treatment, delivery devices, screening and diagnostics. Organizations need to take action to overcome the many challenges including improving affordability, strengthening political will and placing people with diabetes at the centre.

MARIÂNGELA SIMÃO

WHO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL FOR ACCESS TO  
MEDICINES AND HEALTH PRODUCTS



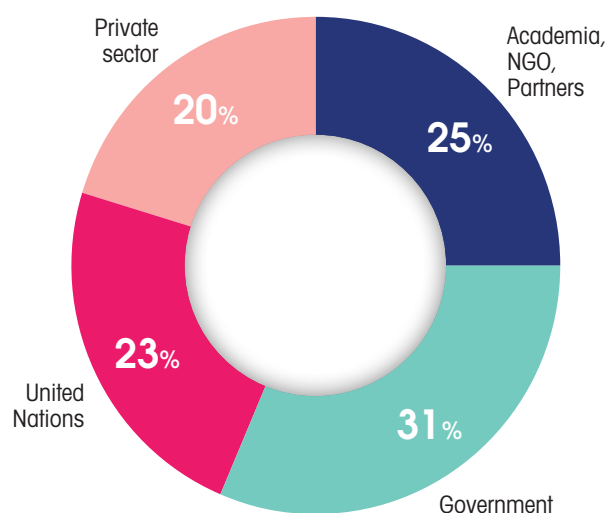
## Workshop objectives

The WHO workshop aimed to:

- inform stakeholders of WHO's global objectives to increase availability and affordability of quality-assured insulin, insulin-delivery and glucose monitoring devices;
- increase visibility and awareness of the extent of the barriers to access quality-assured insulins; and
- identify possible solutions through the collaborative efforts and the input of multisectoral stakeholders.

## About the workshop

The workshop was held online on 21, 23, 24, and 25 September 2020 from 14:00 to 16:00 (CET) each day. Sessions were chaired by representatives from WHO and presentations were made by a wide range of panellists from the UN and partner organizations, civil society, and country regulators and policy makers and included 4 people with type 1 diabetes (See agenda in Annex 2, list of panellists/speakers in Annex 3 and list of presentations in Annex 4). Fact sheets on specific topics were prepared in advance of the webinar and made available to all participants (Annex 5). An average of 270 speakers/panellists and observers from governments, nongovernmental organizations, patient organizations, academia, United Nations Organizations and private sector representatives participated each day (Figure 1).



**Fig. 1. Observers at the workshop by organization type (average per day)**

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

[https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5\\_24264](https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_24264)

