

DIABETES SPECIALIST NURSING SERVICE

Referral criteria and referral to the Diabetes Specialist Nursing service

Use of referral criteria is intended to support a more streamlined and responsive diabetes specialist nursing service so that patients with specialist and complex diabetes needs can be seen promptly and at the time and place of need.

For general diabetes referrals, patients must be registered with a Barnsley GP and/or reside in the Barnsley Borough. Other patients may be classed as out-of-area referrals and be forwarded to the appropriate area, although out of area referrals can be received for specialist diabetes clinics including insulin pump management and antenatal care if they are referred through existing specialist clinics at Barnsley Hospital.

Patients who may benefit from referral to a Diabetes Specialist Nurse

- Patients with type 1 diabetes who have a problem with their diabetes control
- Patients with newly diagnosed type 1 diabetes: contacted as soon as possible by a Diabetes Specialist Nurse (DSN) and seen if necessary.
- Patients with type 2 diabetes on maximum oral agents requiring conversion to insulin or to other therapies such as GLP1 therapy or SGLT2 starts . These patients will be assessed, and conversion will take place within 4-12 weeks of referral on an individual basis
- Patients on insulin with acute problems with their diabetes control causing hyperglycaemia or hypoglycaemia.
- Patients who are acutely unwell (eg with diarrhea/vomiting which is causing problems with their diabetes control should be referred to the hospital.
- Patients with type 1 diabetes for structured education programs. Patients with type 1 diabetes for carbohydrate counting.
- Specialist support and education for patients with type 1 diabetes on insulin pump therapy.
- Patients on insulin with difficult to control diabetes requiring a medication review and/or change in the type of insulin regimen (eg change to different mix or basal bolus regime) for intensification of their diabetes control.
- Pregnant women with type 1 diabetes, type 2 diabetes, gestational diabetes or impaired glucose tolerance.
- Patients with type 1 or type 2 diabetes who are planning pregnancy.
- Specialist support for patients with diabetic foot problems.
- Patients discharged from hospital following an episode of diabetic ketoacidosis or any other significant problem causing upset in their glycaemic control.
- Patients new to insulin, following acute coronary syndrome, who are clinically house bound, should be seen at home within 5 working days of discharge.
- Patients who require advice for fasting for hospital investigations.

THE FOLLOWING WILL NOT BE SEEN BY THE DIABETES SPECIALIST NURSES:

1. Uncomplicated patients with type 2 diabetes on diet alone or diet and tablets **unless** on near maximal oral agents.
2. Patients newly diagnosed with type 2 diabetes or those with established type 2 diabetes needing an update, for structured group education. – XPERT education is the only approved education package for Type 2 diabetes. We do not educate Type 2 individuals as these remain the responsibility of the GP service
- 3.
4. Patients with type 2 diabetes who need advice on blood glucose testing.
5. Patients who are well controlled on insulin but require 3-6 month reviews.

All the above categories should be managed in primary care.

6. Patients who do not consent to treatment.
7. Patients who display any unreasonable behavior which is unacceptable to the provider or service staff.
8. Any individual who is non-compliant with their management strategy

MODE OF REFERRAL

Crisis Intervention and Urgent Referrals

ALL REFERRALS ARE MADE VIA SPA (01226 240086). WE DO NOT ACCEPT DIRECT CALLS from Primary care or from patients

Routine Referrals

Routine referrals from health care professionals for clinic appointments should be made through the NHS e-referral service via <https://www.ebs.ncrs.nhs.uk/>

Diabetes Specialist Nursing Service is based at The Hub on Ward 22, Barnsley Hospital, Gawber Road, Barnsley S75 2EP.

Community Diabetes Specialist Nurse Clinics

Clinic Venue	Morning	Afternoon/evening
Monday		
Apollo Court, Dodworth	X	X
Walderslade	X	X
Grimethorpe		X
Foot Clinic	X	
Tuesday		
Woodland Drive	X	X
Wombwell		X
Wednesday		
Nurse-Led Pump Clinic (Barnsley Hospital)	X	
Consultant-Led Pump Clinic (Barnsley Hospital)		X (2 weeks per month)
Goldthorpe	X	X
Grimethorpe	X	
Thursday		
Athersley	X	X
Nurse-Led Ante-Natal Clinic (Barnsley Hospital)	X	
Consultant-Led Ante-Natal Clinic (Barnsley Hospital)		X
Friday		
Preconception Clinic (Woodland Drive)	X	
Athersley	X	

Patient self-referral

If a patient is under the care of a Diabetes Specialist Nurse they can self-refer to the service.

Any new patients should be referred to the service by their GPs, or appropriate other health care professional.

Patients requiring help with diabetes-related problems should be encouraged to contact SPA on 01226 240086. This is only available to patients who are under our care (active) all other individuals must be referred.

Referral Criteria for Home Visiting

- Patients that are housebound and meet the referral criteria.

- Elderly and/or infirm patients who have an acute problem or complication of their diabetes requiring intensive short term visiting.
- Patients who have other illnesses, debilitating injuries or recent surgical procedure as well as problems with their diabetes, reduced capacity or patients in residential or care homes, making them too unwell to attend clinics.
- Visits **should not** be made unless patients meet the above criteria.

Patients under the care of Community Nurses (District Nurses and Community Matrons)

The Neighbourhood Nurses should contact the Diabetes Specialist Nurses, if insulin dose adjustment is required or if there is a specific problem requiring assessment and a change in care.

Patients who have significant memory problems rather than physical or dexterity problems should be under the daily supervision of Neighbourhood Nurses not Diabetes Specialist Nurses.

If patients require a period of intensive blood glucose monitoring referral to the Neighbourhood Nurses is required.

Referrals to the Neighbourhood Nurses from Diabetes Specialist Nurses should be made via the e-referral option on System One. If a Diabetes Specialist Nurse reviews a patient and makes a change to the type or dosage of prescribed insulin therapy this should be written on the green insulin prescription sheet and faxed immediately to the Communications Office for the attention of the appropriate Neighbourhood Nursing team

Working Hours of Diabetes Specialist Nurses

Monday to Friday, 08.00 to 17.30

Currently the nurses work Monday to Friday so there is no Diabetes Specialist Nurse provision for supporting urgent referrals outside of these hours. Please note we do not work bank holidays either