Sandwell Community Diabetes Nursing Team
Information and advice for patients

**Diabetes**

**Who are we?**
The Sandwell Community Diabetes Nursing Team includes:

- A Community Diabetes team Manager
- A Community Diabetes Consultant
- Diabetes Specialist Nurses
- Healthcare Assistants
- Administrative staff

**Our vision**
Our vision is to ensure that people with diabetes living in Sandwell have equal access to a high quality diabetes service close to home, which is easily accessible, flexible and responsive to their needs.

**What services do we provide?**

**Specialist Diabetes Clinics**
Their are nurse-led clinics for people with diabetes taking place every week in various venues across Sandwell. These clinics will provide you with an opportunity to discuss your diabetes with a diabetes nurse. The nurse will advise you on treatments available and together you will agree how best to manage your diabetes. A consultant diabetologist is also present at some clinics. Follow-up appointments are also available if needed.

**Home Visits**
For people with diabetes who, as a result of physical or psychological disability, are unable to leave their home the community diabetes team will provide care and support in the home. If you require a home visit for any of the reasons above please discuss this with your GP or healthcare professional involved in your care.

**Telephone Support**
People with diabetes or their carers can ring for advice and support about their diabetes. You can call us for advice on issues such as:

- Sick day rules
- Hypoglycaemia
- Titrating medication
- Holiday advice

Our contact number is: 0121 612 3130. This service is available Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm. Out of these hours please contact your out-of-hours GP service or NHS Direct on 0845 4647.
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Attending clinics

Before your appointment
Before your appointment we advise that you eat and take your medication as normal. Please bring the following things with you to your appointment:

- A urine sample as we use it to test your kidney function
- All your medications so the nurse can explain them to you and you can ask any questions you have about them.
- Any questions you have, it's a good idea to write them down so you don’t forget them.
- The results of your blood glucose testing, as recorded in your blood glucose diary.

What happens at the appointment?
First you will see a healthcare assistant, who will take some basic measurements such as your blood pressure, weight and height. They will also ask some questions about your health (e.g. smoking, alcohol intake) and offer you some information. You will then be seen by the diabetes nurse to discuss your diabetes and make a treatment plan. A consultant diabetologist is available for advice at some clinics.

Contact details
Sandwell Community Diabetes Nursing Team
Lyng Centre for Health and Social care
Frank Fisher Way
West Bromwich
West Midlands
B70 7AW

Telephone: 0121 612 3130
Fax: 0121 612 3132
Monday–Friday, 9am-5pm

Out of these hours please contact your out of hours GP service or NHS Direct 0845 4647

For more information about our hospitals and services please see:

Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust
www.swbh.nhs.uk
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Sources used for the information in this leaflet
Department of Health, National Service Framework for Diabetes, February 2007

If you would like to suggest any amendments or improvements to this leaflet please contact the communications department on 0121 507 5420 or email: swb-tr.swbh-gm-patient-information@nhs.net