

**NZQA Application for Special Assessment Conditions under Medical Category
Registered Professional Report
New Zealand Clinical Network for Child and Youth Diabetes Services**

Patient name and contact details

This student has Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM) treated on insulin injections. Diabetes Mellitus is a **permanent** medical condition that can impact on a students' ability to be assessed fairly in assessments for National Qualifications. All students with T2DM treated on insulin injections should be entitled to Special Assessment Conditions (SAC). Because diabetes mellitus is a permanent condition, SAC entitlement for young people with Type 1 diabetes is an on-going requirement. Continuation of the entitlement is recommended throughout the entire period of external academic examinations during higher school years.

Functional Impact of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus requiring insulin treatment

Cognitive functioning can be affected by unstable blood glucose levels. When students with T2DM treated with insulin experience high blood glucose levels, they can become thirsty, tired, have difficulty concentrating and may need to go to the toilet to pass urine frequently. When the blood glucose level is low (less than 4mmol) students may have trouble concentrating and can become confused and disoriented. Stress or anxiety in a student with T2DM treated on insulin can affect the stability of blood glucose levels.

Suitable Assessment Conditions for Students with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus treated on insulin

- Students with T2DM treated on insulin must be allowed to undertake blood tests (hands must be washed) or scan a continuous blood glucose sensor, administer insulin, go to the toilet or treat a hypoglycaemic episode during scheduled exams.
- Students with T2DM treated on insulin need easy access to hypoglycaemia treatment (sugar containing foods such as glucose tablets or juice drinks and long acting carbohydrate snacks such as fruit, bread or milk) during scheduled exams.
- Students with T2DM treated on insulin need to negotiate a system for flagging their need for a formal "rest break" with the supervisor prior to the commencement of the exam. Time taken for undertaking health related tasks needs to then be added to the end of the scheduled exam period so as not to disadvantage the student.
- Students with T2DM treated on insulin should be seated in the corner or back of the examination room so the supervisor knows where they are and to ensure essential health related tasks do not disturb other students.
- Students with T2DM treated on insulin who feel that their performance in an external assessment has been seriously impaired because of exceptional circumstances beyond their control (for example, hypoglycemia or significant hyperglycemia), may apply to NZQA to be awarded a 'derived grade' under the "illness and misadventure clause".

Date:

Signature:

Name (please print):

Endocrinologist/Paediatrician/Nurse Practitioner/Clinical Nurse Specialist/GP (please circle)