

**Questionnaire to look at the care of 16-18 year olds with diabetic ketoacidosis  
– to be filled out by a junior in A&E who treats DKA ‘at the front door’**

The purpose of this questionnaire is to determine how adolescents aged 16-18 years old are looked after when they are admitted to hospital with diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA).

The outpatient care of 16-18 year olds with diabetes is most frequently carried out by paediatric endocrinologists, general paediatricians with an interest in diabetes and endocrinology, or – increasing – in a transition clinic with their adult diabetes colleagues. However, if they are admitted to hospital with diabetic ketoacidosis, then their care is frequently under the care of adult diabetes teams, or general medical teams.

There are national guidelines for the management of DKA for those under 18 – produced by BSPED/ACDC or ISPED and from JBDS for those aged over 18.

However, there is uncertainty about how many adult teams use the BSPED/ACDC/ISPED guidelines when managing DKA in those aged 16-18 under their care. Hence this questionnaire.

If these data show a need, then the idea would be to try and produce a single guideline to cover the management of DKA in children and adults.

Thank you for taking the time to fill in this questionnaire

Please send a copy of this completed questionnaire – **TOGETHER WITH A COPY OF THE DKA GUIDELINE USED FOR 16-18 YEAR OLDS IN YOUR TRUST to** [ketan.dhatariya@nhs.net](mailto:ketan.dhatariya@nhs.net) or in the post to:

Dr Ketan Dhatariya, Consultant in diabetes, endocrinology and general medicine  
Elsie Bertram Diabetes Centre, Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals NHS  
Foundation Trust, Colney Lane, Norwich, NR4 7UY

Dr Andy Raffles, Honorary Consultant Paediatrician, East and North Herts Institute of  
Diabetes and Endocrinology (ENHIDE), East and North Herts NHS Trust,  
Howlands Clinic, New QE2 Hospital, Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL7 4HQ

**Q1**

In which hospital Trust do you work?

**Q2** *(Please share this questionnaire with any colleagues in ED/Emergency Medicine,/Children's ED or admissions unit who may be responsible for the initial care of a C&YP aged under 18 with DKA)*

Are you a?

- FY1
- FY2
- CMT
- ST
- SpR
- Consultant
- Other (please specify)

**Q3**

How is '16 to 18 years old' defined in your institution?

- From the date of their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday to the date of their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday (i.e. up to 18 years old)
- From the date of their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday to the day before their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday (i.e. including 18 year olds)
- It varies
- Don't know
- Something else (please specify)

**Q4**

If a 16 to 18 year old is admitted to your hospital with suspected or biochemically confirmed diabetic ketoacidosis, which team are they most likely to be handed over to by the emergency department?

- The adult diabetes team
- The paediatric diabetes team
- A general adult medical team
- A general paediatric team
- ITU / HDU / PICU
- Don't know
- A combination (please specify)
- Other (please specify)


**Q5**

**Once they are stabilised and ready to go to a general ward, which team would they be admitted under?**

- The adult diabetes team
- The paediatric diabetes team
- A general adult medical team
- A general paediatric team
- ITU / HDU / PICU
- Don't know
- A combination (please specify)
- Other (please specify)


**Q6**

If a 16 to 18 year old is admitted to your hospital with suspected or biochemically confirmed diabetic ketoacidosis what guideline do you use to manage their DKA?

- The Joint British Diabetes Society (JBDS) guideline (or locally adapted)

([http://www.diabetologists-abcd.org.uk/JBDS/JBDS\\_IP\\_DKA\\_Adults\\_Revised.pdf](http://www.diabetologists-abcd.org.uk/JBDS/JBDS_IP_DKA_Adults_Revised.pdf)).

- The British Society of Paediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes (BSPED)/  
Association of Children's Diabetes Clinicians (ACDC) guideline (or locally adapted)

(<https://www.bsped.org.uk/media/1381/dkaguideline.pdf>).

- The International Society of Paediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes (ISPED)  
guideline (or locally adapted).

([https://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.ispad.org/resource/dynamic/forums/20171214\\_044711\\_30120.pdf](https://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.ispad.org/resource/dynamic/forums/20171214_044711_30120.pdf))

- Local regional network approved guideline \*\*

- Your own Trust guideline \*\*

- Other (please specify) \*\*

\*\* Please attach and send a copy of the guideline together with this completed questionnaire to [ketan.dhatariya@nhs.net](mailto:ketan.dhatariya@nhs.net)

**Q7**

Do the adult teams treating 16-18 year olds know about the BSPED/ACDC/ISPED guidelines?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)

**Q8**

If the adult teams looking after 16-18 year olds with DKA know about the BSPED/ACDC/ISPED guidelines, why are they not used?

- They are too complicated
- The adult (JBDS) guideline is easier to use
- We have our own local guideline for this age group
- Not used frequently enough to be as familiar with them as the JBDS guideline
- Not applicable
- Other (please specify)

**Q9**

Do the paediatric teams ever use the adult (JBDS) guideline for 16-18 year olds?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)

**Q10**

Why do paediatric teams use the adult (JBDS) guideline for 16-18 year olds?

- Not aware of the BSPED/ACDC/ISPED guidelines
- The individual is 'adult sized'
- All 16 year olds are treated as adults by our Trust when inpatients regardless of their admission diagnosis
- Not applicable
- Other (please specify)

**Q11**

Do you think that a joint guideline for managing DKA in children and adults would be useful?

- Yes – definitely
- Yes – maybe
- Not sure
- No – probably not
- No – definitely

Why do you say this?

**Q12**

Do you routinely weigh patients admitted with DKA?

Aged 0 – 15 years            Yes             No

Aged 16 – 18 years            Yes             No

Aged over 18 years            Yes             No

**Q13**

The following fluids are recommended by the BSPED/ACDC/ISPED guidelines

Are they available in the areas where 16-18 year olds are treated for DKA?

0.9% sodium chloride solution (“normal saline”)            Yes             No

0.45% sodium chloride solution (“half-normal saline”)            Yes             No

2.7% sodium chloride solution            Yes             No

3% sodium chloride solution            Yes             No

Mannitol            Yes             No

**Q14**

Does your institution allow for paediatric and adult joint working – e.g. do you have a joint guideline or an inpatient paediatric / adolescent / adult MDT that sees these inpatients together?

Yes (please elaborate)

No

Don't know

Other (please specify)

**Q15**

In your institution are 16-18 year olds formally reviewed by the diabetes specialist team (adult or adolescent) prior to discharge?

- Yes
- No
- Sometimes
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)

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