



Clinical Trials

Testing New T1D Therapies and Devices

For a treatment, drug, or device to make it into the hands of people with type 1 diabetes (T1D) it must first complete a vital step—a clinical trial. Despite how critical these trials are to finding therapies to cure, prevent, and treat T1D, more than 80% are delayed or fail because researchers can't find enough funding or participants. JDRF speeds the development and approval of new T1D therapies by both funding clinical trials and by helping to recruit and match participants.

Clinical Trials 101

	Phase I: Proof of Concept	Phase II: Pilot	Phase III: Pivotal
Primary Goal	Ensure the drug or device is safe on people with T1D	Assess the efficacy and side effects of the drug or device using a small group of T1D volunteers	Test the drug or device with the largest group of T1D volunteers to determine its exact efficacy
Number of Participants	20–100	100–300	300–3,000

“ I was a lot more in tune with my overall health while I was in a clinical trial. It’s great to see so much in motion, and to know how many people are focused on working to bring better diabetes management tools to market. We’ve come a long way in the decades I’ve had T1D, and it’s exciting to see what happens next. ”

— Phyllis K.,
living with T1D for more than 40 years

JDRF’s Clinical Trials Connection

In 2016, JDRF unveiled an online tool called Clinical Trials Connection that asks users simple questions—about where they live, the distance they can travel, and other characteristics—to match them with trials for which they are eligible. Currently, there are more than 300 clinical trials for people living with T1D and T1D-related complications under way.

Interested in taking part in a clinical trial? After answering a few questions, you’ll be matched with clinical trials that may be right for you at jdrf.org/clinical-trials.

JDRF-Funded Clinical Trials

CURING T1D	Improving Lives
Cell Therapies	Glucose Control Drugs and Devices
Disease-Modifying Therapies	Complications Treatments
T1D Screening	Behavioral Health Interventions
15	35

JDRF currently funds
50 clinical trials
to cure T1D
and improve lives.



Advances in T1D Research



In 2016, the first artificial pancreas—a system for people with T1D that monitors blood-sugar levels and automatically provides the right amount of insulin at the right time—came to market. Nearly a decade earlier, JDRF catalyzed the field by investing millions of dollars into research and funding more than 50 clinical trials to build and improve this life-changing technology.



In 2000, JDRF-funded scientists established the “Edmonton Protocol” to successfully transplant healthy, insulin-producing beta cells from donors into people with T1D. In the clinical trial, every participant was able to live without insulin injections, confirming that the Edmonton Protocol could (in some instances) successfully restore long-term insulin production.



In the 1990s, JDRF funded multiple research grants for drugs that promote the regrowth of healthy blood vessels under the retina (a common complication for people with T1D). Today, the FDA has approved two drugs that combat this diabetic eye disease.



In 1982, engineered human insulin—created by artificially combining segments of human DNA—was the first drug of its kind to come to market. JDRF funded the first efforts to engineer insulin using this technology. Before that, people living with T1D used insulin derived from animals, which was often unreliable and difficult to appropriately dose.

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Every gift takes us one step closer to curing T1D. Find out how you can support JDRF and make a difference in the lives of people with T1D by visiting jdrf.org/donate.

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