

# About T1D

JDRF is the leading global organization funding type 1 diabetes (T1D) research. Our strength lies in our exclusive focus and singular influence on the worldwide effort to end T1D.



**JDRF** IMPROVING LIVES. CURING TYPE 1 DIABETES.

## OUR VISION

A world without T1D.

## OUR MISSION

Improving lives today and tomorrow by accelerating lifechanging breakthroughs to cure, prevent and treat T1D and its complications.

In 1974, four years after JDRF was founded in the United States, a group of parents determined to find a cure for their children living with T1D came together and began JDRF Canada, launching the largest funder and advocate for T1D research in Canada.

## T1D FACTS

- Type 1 diabetes is different than type 2. It's an autoimmune disease, where the body attacks the cells in the pancreas that produce insulin.
- A person living with T1D can no longer produce insulin on their own.
- There are over 40 different factors that can affect blood glucose levels and even with careful management, there is the risk of dangerous highs and lows.
- An average day means testing blood glucose at least 6 times and taking insulin 4 or more times.
- People with T1D must monitor their blood glucose and insulin levels throughout the day. Insulin is taken externally either by multiple daily injections, pen or pump.
- People with T1D must carb count at each meal.
- The fear of serious complications can increase the potential for mental health issues, or a condition known as 'diabetes distress'.
- There are no treatments in Canada other than insulin, and there is no cure.
- T1D can be diagnosed at any age, and while research is advancing our understanding of the disease, its causes are still not fully known.



**"We lived a very carefree life before, and thought we had a lot to handle just with the challenges of parenting two young children. Immediately, you're mourning the loss of this kind of carefree life for your child."**

– Dan and Janine, parents of Joshua who was diagnosed at age 3

## T1D IS ON THE RISE

- Close to 300,000 Canadians live with T1D.
- Today, 1-in-21 families are impacted; in 1990 it was 1-in-47; in 2040 could be 1-in-16 in Canada.
- T1D is growing at 4.4% each year.
- Canada is among the top 10 countries in the world in terms of incidence (new cases each year relative to population size).