

# T1International #insulin4all

## EMERGENCY INSULIN ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY RESOURCES

**If you are in immediate emergency need, please seek help at an ER or by calling 911.**

One in four people who are insulin dependent have reported the dangerous practice of rationing their insulin due to price. Being unable to afford or access insulin or other required supplies **is not your fault**. Rather it is the outcome of decades of intentional policies and practices by Big Pharma.

***NOTE:** This section covers **urgent** insulin access; see page two for **ongoing** insulin access and affordability*

### Emergency Access Programs:

- [Alec's Laws](#) or Insulin Safety Net Laws provide low-cost insulin for the uninsured in [Colorado](#), [Maine](#), [Minnesota](#), and [Utah](#).
- [Mutual Aid Diabetes](#) can help you navigate the below resources, get you one-time access to insulin and supplies, as well as help you find and navigate sustainable long-term solutions.
- [Insulin Please](#) can connect patients in need with insulin donors nearby.

### Insulin Manufacturers' Insulin Affordability Resources:

*Many of the below insulin manufacturers' Insulin Affordability Resources are challenging to access and may be terminated or modified at any time. This is why T1International supports structural reforms.*

**Eli Lilly:** Maker of Basaglar, Humalog, Lispro, Rezvoglar

- [Diabetes Solution Center](#) can offer \$35 insulin through the Lilly Insulin Value Program by calling (833) 808-1234 Monday - Friday 9am - 7pm ET

**Novo Nordisk:** Maker of Aspart, Fiasp, Levemir, Novolog, Tresiba

- [NovoCare Immediate Supply](#) can offer up to 3 vials 2 packs of pens, or a combination
- You will need to print a card once you fill out the online form to bring to the pharmacy
- You can also call: (844) 668-6463 Monday - Friday 8am - 11pm and Saturdays 11am - 7pm ET

**Sanofi:** Maker of Admelog, Apridra, Lantus, Toujeo

- [Patient Connection Temporary Access Program](#) can provide up to a 30-day supply
- You will need to fill out the form and then call the hotline at (888) 847-4877 and bring the voucher ID and Pharmacy number from the phone call to pick up your prescription.

*Depending on where you live, you may need to have an updated prescription to get insulin.*

## See Also:

- [Kevin's Laws](#) can allow emergency refills in many states. Many pharmacists are undereducated about these rules and laws, so be sure to ask for them specifically. Many states do not have an insurance mandate and so you may have to pay out of pocket.
- [Free & Charitable Clinics](#) and [Community Health Centers](#) assist the medically underserved in communities across the U.S. by ensuring that they have access to affordable health care.
- **Older formula insulins** may be available without a prescription behind the pharmacy counter. *If you are switching from an analogue formula to a human insulin formula, **getting directions and information from a medical professional is crucial.** These formulas behave differently, and can be dangerous without direction and close monitoring.*

## ONGOING INSULIN ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY RESOURCES

Barriers to access to insulin and other diabetes supplies can include unaffordable health care, institutional unresponsiveness, and major life transitions. Being unable to afford or access insulin or other required supplies is not the fault of any of us as individuals; rather it is the outcome of decades of intentional policies and practices by Big Pharma.

**Know that you are not alone:** about 10% of people in the United States do not have health insurance, [1 in 4 people with type 1 diabetes](#) have experienced interruptions in their health insurance, and about 60% of [people without insurance in the US are people of color](#). You can learn more about the issue by visiting our [website](#).

**If you are in immediate emergency need, please seek help at an ER or by calling 911.**

*NOTE: The below covers **ongoing** insulin access and affordability; see above for **urgent** need*

### [Mutual Aid Diabetes:](#)

- This mutual aid network seeks to ensure every member of the diabetes community has access to adequate supplies, medications, insulin, and sustainability resources via facilitated peer support. Their network of volunteers may be able to get you one-time access to insulin and supplies, as well as help you find and navigate sustainable long-term solutions, including those listed below.

### **Medicaid and CHIP**

- Medicaid is a state-administered health insurance program for low-income individuals and families. Each state has their own eligibility requirements. Medicaid expansion states can extend eligibility to low-income adults. Medicaid covers health care and prescriptions; costs vary by state. The Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) is a state-administered health insurance program for children from families too high to qualify for Medicaid and some pregnant people and parents. The Health Insurance Marketplace in each state offers a [single application](#) to determine eligibility for Medicaid, CHIP, and the private marketplace. Starting in 2014 all health insurance plans cannot deny coverage or charge more because of diabetes or other preexisting conditions.

- **340B Program** is a U.S. federal government program that requires drug manufacturers to provide outpatient drugs to eligible health care organizations and covered entities at significantly reduced prices. It allows those who see a doctor at a [community health center](#) that is part of the 340B Program and fill prescriptions at the clinic's associated 340B pharmacy to get reduced-price prescription drugs. Note that often these clinics can only provide assistance to patients who are uninsured. Read about one patient's experience [here](#).

### **Insulin Manufacturers' Insulin Affordability and Access Resources:**

There are three tools that Big Pharma offers for increasing access and affordability to resources: **Copay Assistance Programs** for privately insured patients in the commercial market, **Patient Assistance Programs** including free drug assistance programs through a company's own charitable foundation or as cash donations to third-party foundations that pay out of pocket costs for uninsured patients; and offering **"generics" or biosimilar insulins**. Getting access to affordable and accessible insulin using any of these tools is challenging by design and keeps people from qualifying for and using the available tools.

These parties may terminate or modify their patient assistance programs at any time, including changing eligibility criteria and level of assistance. That's why T1International supports structural reforms to lower insulin prices and to enhance transparency and accountability of manufacturer-funded patient assistance programs. The programs tied to insulin manufacturers listed below may be arduous or difficult to qualify for, but can be worth checking out if in need.

### **Eli Lilly: Maker of Basaglar, Humalog, Humalin, Lispro, Rezvoglar, and Baqsimi (glucagon nasal powder)**

- **Patient Assistance Program:** [Lilly Cares Foundation](#) (800) 545-6962 is available to people without insurance, with Medicare Part D, for \$35 for qualified patients (under 400% of the Federal Poverty Level)
- **Copay Assistance Program:** [Lilly Insulin Value Program](#) is available for people with commercial insurance and those without insurance for \$35.
- **Generics/Biosimilars:** Captive generic Lispro is available at 50-70% lower than branded Humalog; Rezvoglar is a biosimilar to Lantus by Sanofi; Basalgar is a biosimilar of Lantus.
  - Human Insulin formulas (for example, Lilly's Humalin) are also available for \$25 per vial.
  - **Please note:** *if you're switching from an analogue formula to a human insulin formula, **getting directions and information from a medical professional is crucial**. These formulas behave differently, and can be dangerous without direction and close monitoring.*

### **MannKind: Maker of Afrezza**

- **Patient Assistance Program:** [Direct Purchase Program](#) is available to people with or without insurance for \$99-\$199 per box for three boxes per 30 days for qualified patients.
- **Co-pay Assistance:** [Afrezza Savings Cards](#) are available for people with private insurance for as low as \$15 per month.

## **Novo Nordisk:** Maker of Aspart, Fiasp, Levemir, Novolog, Novolin, Tresiba

- **Patient Assistance Program:** [My\\$99Insulin](#) is available to people without insurance and some people with Medicare (not be enrolled or qualify for Medicaid, Low Income Subsidies, or Veterans (VA benefits) for \$99 for up to three vials or two packs of pens.
- **Co-pay Assistance:** [Novocare Savings Cards](#) are available to people with private insurance for \$5-\$150 for 30 days of Tribesa and \$25-\$99 for a 30-day supply of Novolog for up to 24 months.
- **Generics/Biosimilars:** Captive generic Aspart is available for less than the branded Novolog.
  - Novo Nordisk's Walmart private brand, ReliOn offers aspart insulin for 58-75% off the branded Novolog.
  - Human Insulin formulas (for example, Novo's Novolin) are available at many Walmart (ReliOn brand) and other stores for \$25 per vial.
  - **Please note:** *if you're switching from an analogue formula to a human insulin formula, **getting directions and information from a medical professional is crucial.** These formulas behave differently, and can be dangerous without direction and close monitoring.*

## **Sanofi:** Maker of Admelog, Apridra, Lantus, Toujeo

- **Patient Assistance Program:** [Sanofi Patient Connection](#) (888) 847-4877 is available for people without insurance who do not qualify for Medicaid, or with no insurance coverage of the product, and for some with Medicare, who are less than 400% of the Federal Poverty Level
- **Co-pay Assistance:** [Insulin Valyou Savings Program](#) are available for people with private insurance for up to \$35 for a 30-day supply.
- **Generics/Biosimilars:** Captive generic Glargine is available for 60% less than the branded Lantus; Admelog is a biosimilar of Lilly's Humalog.

## **Viatis:** Maker of Semglee

- **Patient Assistance Program:** Viatis Patient Assistance Program may be available for patients without insurance for \$0. You must contact [customer.service@viatis.com](mailto:customer.service@viatis.com) or 800-796-9526
- **Copay Assistance Program:** [The SEMGLEE Savings Card](#) is eligible for patients with private insurance for up to \$94 for a 30-day supply.
- **Generics/Biosimilars:** Semglee is a biosimilar interchangeable of Sanofi's Lantus.

## Other Insulin Affordability and Access Resources:

- [CR3 Diabetes Association](#) distributes glucose meters, test strips, insulin pumps and supplies to those who qualify for their program. They also accept donations of certain insulin pump models, unexpired pump supplies, and test strips.
- [Diabetes Disaster Response Coalition](#) (DDRC) provides emergency support resources to people with diabetes in disaster-impacted cities.
- [Insulin for Life USA](#) distributes insulin to those in need in the U.S. and around the world. They also accept donated insulin that is unopened and unexpired.
- [Insulin Pumpers Foundation](#) distributes insulin pumps and supplies to those who qualify for their program. They also accept donations of used working insulin pumps and unused, unexpired infusion supplies.
- [The Jared Kuper Foundation](#) distributes insulin and offers financial support to those in need. They also accept donated insulin that is unopened and unexpired.

## Drug Discount Programs & Cards:

Often drug discount programs and cards cannot be used with your health insurance – you either pay the insurance price or the cash price set by the program. In the long run, they may end up costing patients more money. Read about one patient's experience [here](#).

- [Benefits Checkup](#)
- [Blink Health](#)
- [Family Wize](#)
- [GoodRx](#)
- [Inside Rx](#)
- [Medicine Assistance Tool \(MAT\)](#)
- [Needy Meds](#)
- [Partnership for Prescription Assistance](#)
- [Patient Advocate Foundation](#)
- [Reduced Rx](#)
- [RxAssist](#)
- [RxHope](#)
- [Rx Saver](#)
- [Single Care](#)
- [WellCard Savings](#)

***Note: The insulin access and affordability resources in this document are for citizens of the United States and for adults, unless otherwise noted.***

## About T1International

T1International is a global type 1 diabetes advocacy organization led by people with type 1 diabetes for people with type 1 diabetes. T1International believes in a world where everyone with type 1 diabetes – no matter where they live – has everything they need to survive and achieve their dreams. The organization accepts no funding from pharmaceutical companies and provides advocacy training and support to advocates. In 2014 T1International launched the #insulin4all campaign, which has grown into a global movement. T1International supports 41 #insulin4all Chapters across the US and advocates and partners in more than 20 countries around the world.