

Hospital insulin safety starts in the community

Ways you can help people with diabetes and why

Insights from SHINE Study

Co-designed with people with diabetes and frontline staff.

Why this is important:

40% Inpatients with diabetes treated with insulin experience at least one insulin error

Insulin errors can lead to:

- Acute diabetes emergencies: Hypoglycaemia, DKA, HHS
- Impact on patient experience:
 - ↑ anxiety
 - ↑ stress
 - ↓ trust in healthcare professionals
 - ↑ complications and hospital length of stay



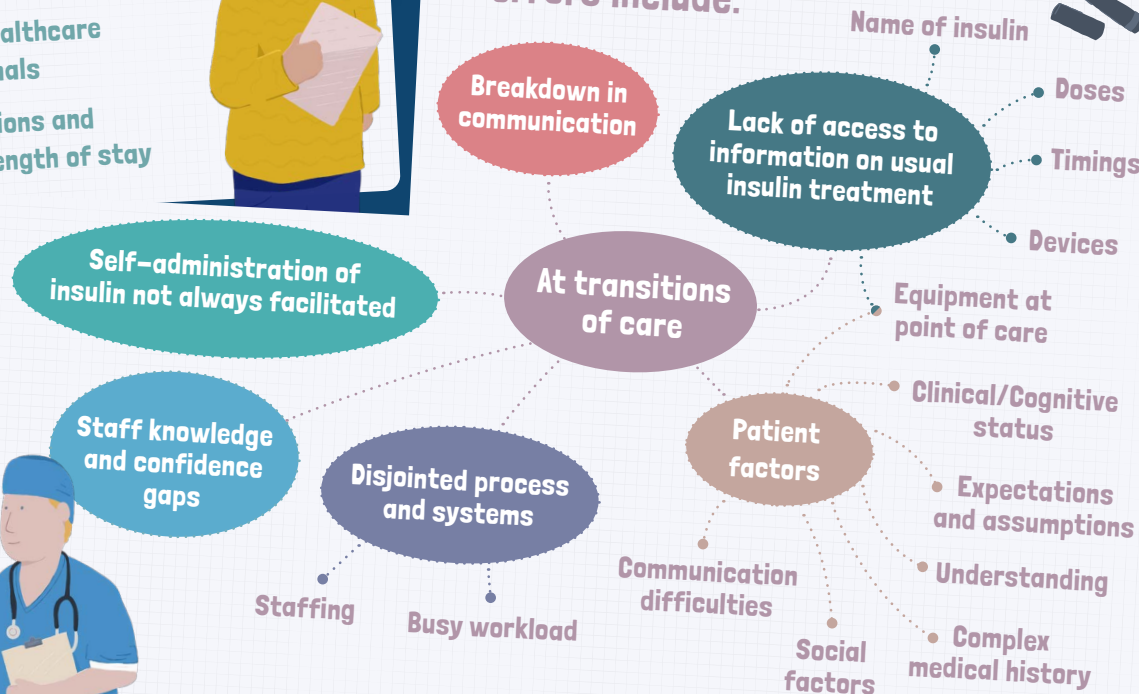
How & why errors happen?

Insulin is a high-risk, time-critical drug

Timing is crucial for safe & effective treatment

Potential harm from errors can be severe, including life-threatening outcomes

Common contributing factors in errors include:



What to do about it?

At clinical reviews:

- ☐ Check with your patient how they manage their insulin treatment
- ☐ Document usual insulin treatment details, including insulin name, devices, doses, and timings

Where possible, **empower people with diabetes** to prepare for hospital admission

This may include safety netting advice on:

- ☐ What to take with them to hospital
- ☐ What to tell hospital staff
- ☐ The possibility of self-administration of insulin in hospital
- ☐ How to ensure their diabetes is managed safely in hospital
- ☐ How to prepare for planned surgery

Please see the '5 tips for safe hospital stay' infographic

This is essential for:

- People with planned admissions or surgery
- Older adults and/or individuals with frailty
- People at higher risk of hospital admission

