



T1D Newsbites

JDRF Partnerships Making the News

Every day, JDRF staff and volunteers work tirelessly to accelerate life-changing breakthroughs to cure, prevent and treat type 1 diabetes (T1D) and its complications through advocacy and research with our partners in science, government and industry. Some days, we announce big news. Read on to discover some of the most exciting recent advances for the T1D community.

Promising New T1D Drug

Think providing insulin is the simple answer for people with T1D? Think again. Millions of people living with T1D are still at risk for dangerous blood-sugar highs and lows — even while taking daily insulin. In 2015, a JDRF-backed clinical trial showed the drug sotagliflozin can help to diminish the risk of blood-sugar swings. Zynquista™ (sotagliflozin) was submitted for approval in the United States and Europe to treat people with T1D, and is currently awaiting results.



Partnership to Improve T1D Therapy

“Encapsulation” technology seeks to shield insulin-producing beta cells in the body to protect them from immune attack (and subsequent T1D). JDRF infused funding into encapsulation research in 2007, inspiring Daniel Anderson, Ph.D., and Robert Langer, Sc.D., to found Sigilon Therapeutics to further develop the encapsulation platform they discovered using JDRF funds. This year, Eli Lilly (a company JDRF has collaborated with for nearly 50 years) announced their first encapsulated cell therapy program — in partnership with Sigilon Therapeutics — to expand research into encapsulated cell therapies to combat T1D.



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.



Using IBM Research to Identify T1D Risk Factors

Why do some children at risk for T1D contract the disease while others don't? We've never been able to compare all the data points — until now. JDRF recently announced a collaboration with IBM Research to develop and apply world-class computing power to analyze years of global T1D research data and identify factors leading to the onset of T1D in children. A better understanding of risk factors and causes of T1D could help us to prevent the disease entirely.



National Institutes
of Health

Renewed Government Funding for T1D Research

In February 2018, Congress approved legislation for an extension of the Special Diabetes Program (SDP), allocating \$300 million for T1D research through the National Institutes of Health. This renewed funding will allow researchers to build on leading-edge investigations to develop better treatments, prevention measures and a cure for T1D. In 2019, JDRF will resume advocacy work to renew SDP funds in the next voting cycle.



Personalized Glucose Control Solutions

Tidepool, a JDRF partner company, recently announced plans to deliver an FDA-approved app called the Tidepool Loop. The app will allow people with T1D to combine a glucose monitor from one company with a pump from another — enabling each person to create a personalized system to best meet their individual needs and budget.



Boosting Immunotherapy

One way to halt the progression of T1D is to train the immune system to leave insulin-producing beta cells alone. In 2018, the JDRF T1D Fund invested in SQZ Biotech to help the company move its CellSqueeze® platform — a cell therapy designed to retrain immune cells to ignore beta cells rather than destroy them and cause T1D — closer to clinical testing.



Advancing the Open-Protocol Market

Ypsomed, a Swiss developer and manufacturer of injection and infusion systems, is finalizing its next-generation mylife™ YpsoPump® insulin pump — an open-protocol system that will connect with third-party apps and devices, allowing users greater choice and flexibility. JDRF recently announced a two-year contract with Ypsomed to accelerate the development of the pump to bring it to market as soon as possible.

2019

Every gift takes us one step closer to a cure for 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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