

## **Medication-induced Diabetes: Fact Sheet**

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- **Certain medications such as high doses of steroids (Dexamethasone), and some agents that suppress the immune system (Asparaginase, Tacrolimus, Cyclosporin) may cause problems with the production and effectiveness of insulin causing the level of glucose to rise and spill over into the urine. This is termed medication-induced diabetes.**
- **Some children treated on these types of medications will require insulin injections to maintain blood glucose levels in the healthy range ie 4 – 7 mmol/L.**
- **As these medications causing the diabetes are decreased, the insulin doses are also decreased and in most cases eventually stopped.**
- **In children who have a strong family history of type 2 diabetes or have pre-existing insulin resistance (impaired glucose tolerance, obesity), insulin injections may be required even after the medications have been stopped.**
- **Children with medication-induced diabetes need to undertake regular monitoring of blood glucose levels.**
- **Children with medication-induced diabetes are at risk of hypoglycaemia.**