



Farrah's story – a young person with diabetes

Farrah is 15 years old and lives with her family near a district hospital. Farrah has type 1 diabetes, which develops early in life, and she needs daily insulin injections. Farrah's parents help her control her diabetes (manage her blood-sugar levels), making sure she takes the right amount of insulin at the right times, that her school has up-to-date knowledge of her care, and that she has regular follow-up appointments with the paediatric diabetic specialist team (a diabetes team that deals with children and young people).

The team runs regular outpatient clinics at both district hospital sites. Farrah or her parents can also contact the diabetes specialist nurse, 24 hours a day, every day of the week, if they have any concerns.

If Farrah has any kind of diabetes-related emergency, an ambulance will take her to the paediatric emergency centre at the specialist emergency care hospital.

There is little change to the day-to-day clinical care of Farrah's diabetes. Almost all children's diabetes care can be managed in outpatient departments, with very few children ever needing to be admitted to hospital. However, if Farrah did need specialist inpatient care, under the proposals a team of specialist clinical staff could give her round-the-clock specialist care at the specialist emergency care hospital.

There would also be dedicated children's high-dependency beds at the specialist emergency care hospital (currently not available at Epsom and St Helier hospitals) so that children could receive the very highest level of care if they ever needed it.

