

# What are the rights of people living with type 1 diabetes?

T1International believes in #insulin4all, which means that every person with type 1 diabetes has the right to access to insulin, diabetes supplies, education, healthcare, and appropriate treatment.

This document can help you stand up for the rights of people living with type 1 diabetes. It provides examples of important information about the right to health, which includes diabetes.

- 1. The **World Health Organization** (WHO) supports the right to health and lists insulin as an essential medicine.
- 2. The **World Trade Organization** recognizes that while innovation is important, public health comes first.
- 3. The **United Nations** is dedicated to access to healthcare and medicine through the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 4. Various **Declarations** and **Conventions** show that the international community supports the human right to health.



An opportunity to live a healthy and happy life with type 1 diabetes

## 1. World Health Organisation

The Preamble to the World Health Organization Constitution notes that:



The enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social conditions.



#### The WHO:



promotes access to quality medicines and medical devices



defines Essential Medicines to include insulin, glucagon, and metformin

## 2. World Trade Organisation

The WTO study "Promoting Access to Medical Technologies and Innovation" recognizes the importance of:

- Affordable prices for medicine
- Generic competition
- Public health above patent rights
- Funding for research and development of new medicines



### 3. United Nations

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



Goal 3 of the SDGs notes that the UN has made a commitment to ensure health and well-being for all, at every stage of life.

## Relevant areas that SDG 3 addresses:

- non-communicable diseases
- universal health coverage
- access for all to safe, effective, quality and affordable medicines and vaccines

## Key aims of SDG 3 include:

- more research and development
- increased health financing
- strengthened capacity of all countries in health risk reduction and management

## 4. Health is a Human Right

Universal
Declaration of
Human Rights

Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care... [Article 25]

International
Covenant on
Economic, Social,
and Cultural
Rights

Governments recognize the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health. [Article 12(1)]

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

Governments undertake to prohibit and eliminate racial discrimination in the enjoyment of the right to public health, medical care, social security and social services. [Article 5(e)(iv)]

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women

Governments shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in the enjoyment of the right to protection of health and to safety in working conditions, including the safeguarding of the function of reproduction.

[Article 11(I)(f)]



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