

**NZQA Application for Special Assessment Conditions under Medical Category
Registered Professional Report
New Zealand Clinical Network for Child and Youth Diabetes Services**

Patient Name & Contact Details

This student has Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus (T1DM). Diabetes Mellitus is a **permanent** medical condition that can impact on a students' ability to be assessed fairly in assessments for National Qualifications. All students with T1DM should be entitled to Special Assessment Conditions (SAC).

Because diabetes mellitus is a permanent condition, SAC entitlement for young people with Type 1 diabetes is an on-going requirement. Continuation of the entitlement is recommended throughout the entire period of external academic examinations during higher school years.

Functional Impact of Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus

Cognitive functioning can be affected by unstable blood glucose levels. When students with T1DM experience high blood glucose levels they can become thirsty, tired, have difficulty concentrating and may need to go to the toilet to pass urine frequently. When the blood glucose level is low (less than 4mmol) students with T1DM may have trouble concentrating and can become confused and disoriented. Stress or anxiety in a young person with T1DM can affect the stability of blood glucose levels significantly.

Suitable Assessment Conditions for Students with Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus

- Students with T1DM must be allowed to undertake blood tests (hands must be washed) or scan a continuous blood glucose sensor, administer insulin, go to the toilet or treat a hypoglycaemic episode during scheduled exams.
- Students with T1DM need easy access to hypoglycaemia treatment (sugar containing foods such as glucose tablets or juice drinks and long acting carbohydrate snacks such as fruit, bread or milk) during scheduled exams.
- Students with T1DM need to negotiate a system for flagging their need for a formal "rest break" with the supervisor prior to the commencement of the exam. Time taken for undertaking health related tasks needs to then be added to the end of the scheduled exam period so as not to disadvantage the student.
- Students with T1DM should be seated in the corner or back of the examination room so the supervisor knows where they are and to ensure essential health related tasks do not disturb other students.
- Students with T1DM who feel that their performance in an external assessment has been seriously impaired because of exceptional circumstances beyond their control (for example, hypoglycemia or significant hyperglycemia), may apply to NZQA to be awarded a **'derived grade'** under the "illness and misadventure clause".

Date:

Signature:

Name (please print):

Endocrinologist/Paediatrician/Nurse Practitioner/Clinical Nurse Specialist/GP (please circle)