THEME AND KEY MESSAGES
2021
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ACCESS TO DIABETES CARE

The theme for World Diabetes Day 2021-23 is **access to diabetes care**.

100 years after the discovery of insulin, millions of people with diabetes around the world cannot access the care they need. People with diabetes require ongoing care and support to manage their condition and avoid complications.

We are living in extraordinarily difficult times, in which people with diabetes are facing an additional major health threat. Regretfully, we have seen that people living with diabetes can be more susceptible to the worst complications of COVID-19. We should worry that the legacy of the pandemic will see resources and attention focused on infectious diseases to the detriment of all non-communicable diseases, including diabetes.

We therefore cannot wait any longer for diabetes medicine, technologies, support and care to be made available to all that require them.

The centenary of the discovery of insulin presents a unique opportunity to bring about meaningful change for the more than 460 million people living with diabetes and the millions more at risk. United, the global diabetes community has the numbers, the influence and the determination to bring about meaningful change. We need to take on the challenge.

It’s time for governments, policymakers and advocates to act to increase investment in diabetes care and prevention and ensure everyone living with diabetes can access the care they need.

**If not now, when?**

TOP TIP: Share these key messages when organising your events to raise awareness around WDD 2021.

463 million adults are living with diabetes