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Benaroya Research Institute

## To Infinity and Beyond: The Future of Type 1 Diabetes

Friends For Life Seattle March 17, 2023

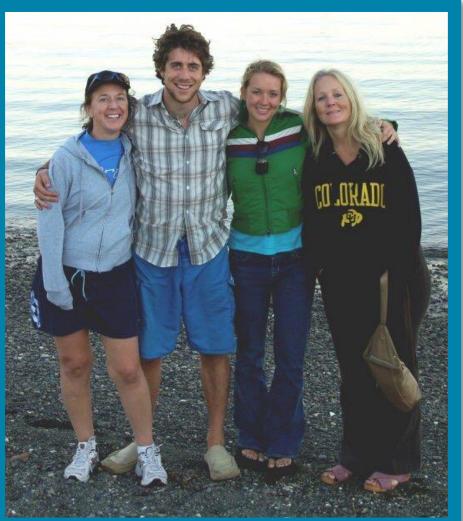
Dana VanBuecken, ARNP Diabetes Clinical Research Program

Benaroya Research Institute diabetes@benaroyaresearch.org



## Introduction

- No disclosures







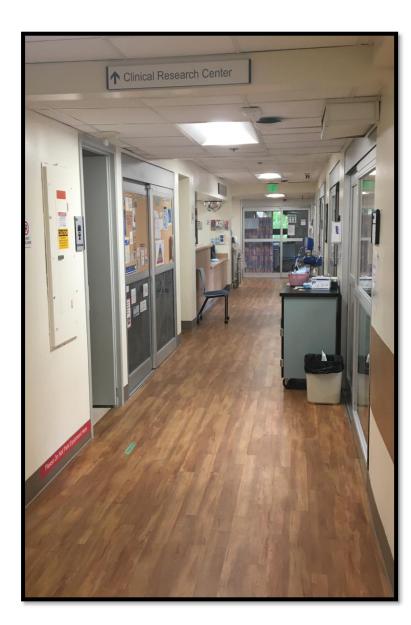
## **About Benaroya Research Institute**

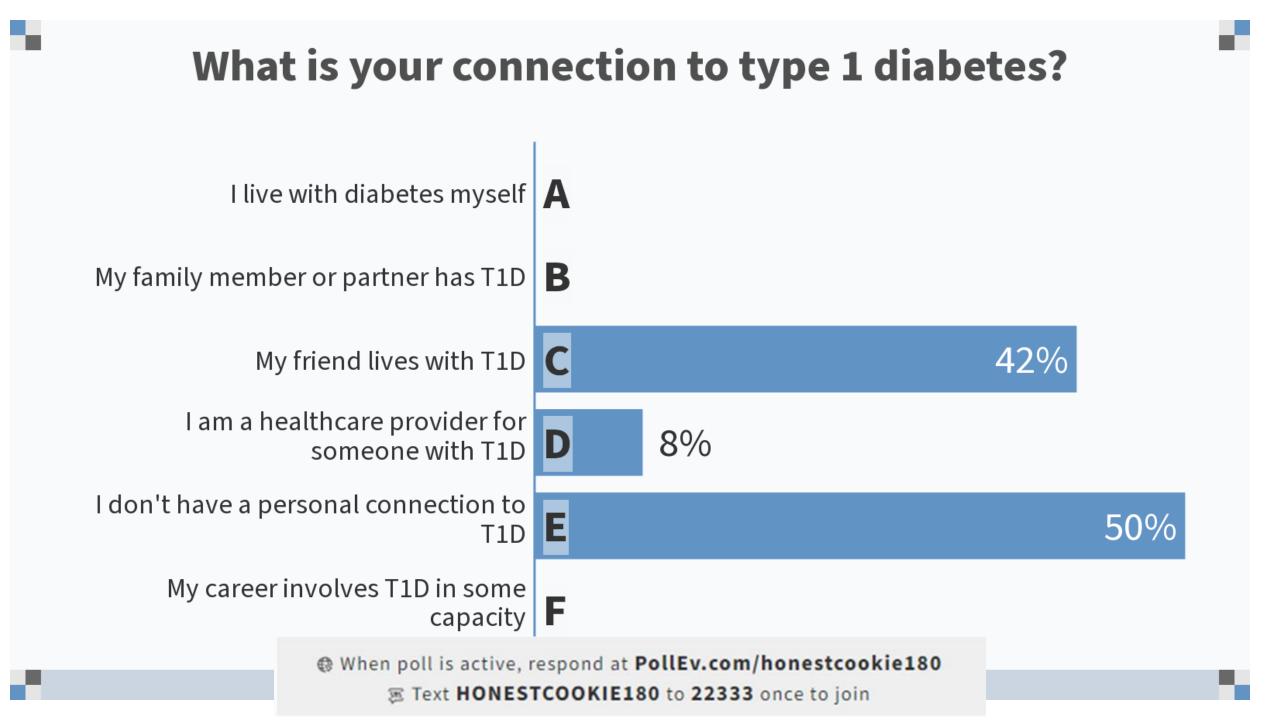


- Nonprofit biomedical research center in Seattle with a focus on understanding autoimmune/ immune diseases
- 29 different labs
- 6-bed unit located on floor 8 of Virginia Mason hospital
- Adult and pediatric clinical trials

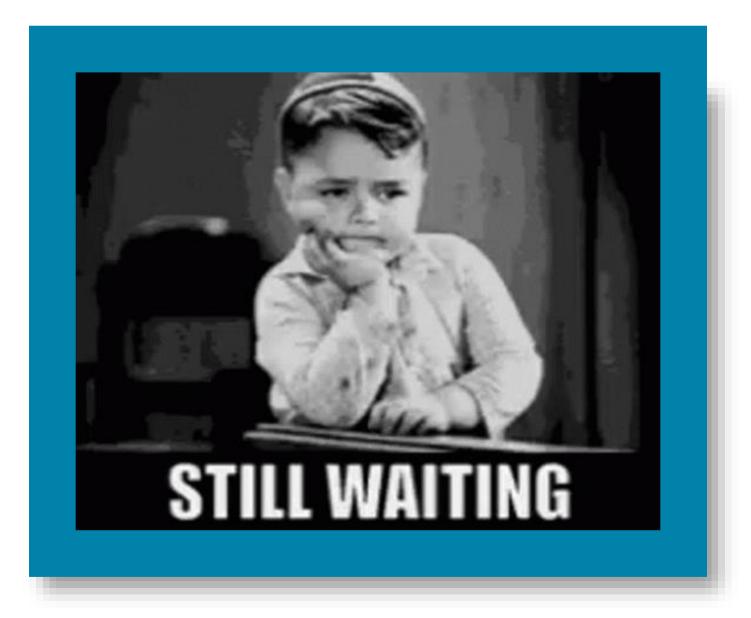


"Progress against one autoimmune condition is progress against " them all





## When will there be a cure for T1D?



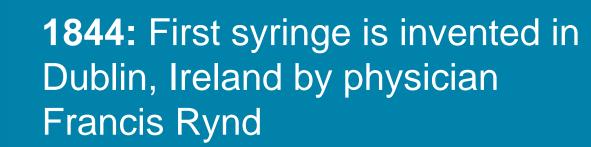
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**3500 BC-** Ancient texts describe T1D symptoms

Diagnosis made by tasting the urine to determine if it was sweet









**1899-** German physician Josef von Mering finds that diabetes is a "problem of the pancreas"





#### Early 1900s:

T1D treatment consists of individualized starvation diets

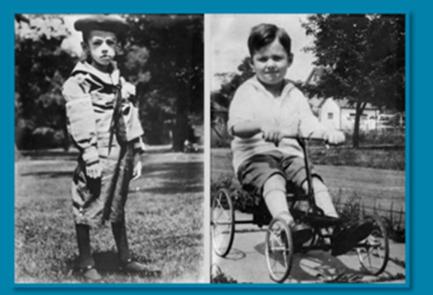
Allowed only ~ 400 calories/day (one PBJ sandwich)

Teddy Ryder prior to insulin treatment





**1921:** Canadian doctors Frederick Banting and Charles Best discover insulin!



Teddy was one of the first 12 people to receive insulin treatment through a clinical trial run by Banting





Pancreas glands examined and run through grinders

**1921-1982:** Insulin purified from pig/cow pancreases left over from the meat-packing industry

2 tons of pig pancreas needed to extract just eight ounces of purified insulin



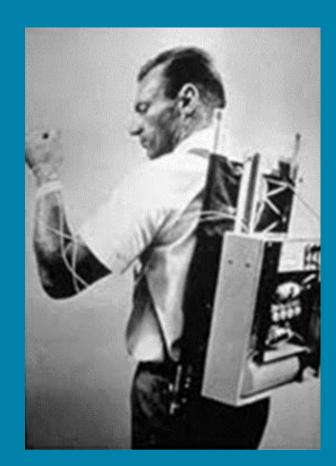
Patients take just 1-2 injections /day and glucose control is generally poor





**1982**: We successfully make human insulin in the lab and bring it to market!





## **1963:** Dr. Arnold Kadish develops the first insulin pump





## **1965:** First blood glucose meter invented

It will not become widely available for home use until the 1980s



#### The humal of immunity;

Reprinted from The Lawert, Vol. 198, G. F. Bottacon, A. Placin-Christensen, and D. Donisch, Adut cell antibudics in diabetes mellitur with information polytodiscrine deformation, pp. 1279-1283, Coppright 1974, with premission from Elsevier.

The Lancet · Saturday 30 November 1974

#### MELLITUS WITH AUTOIMMUNE. POLYENBOCRINE DEFICIENCIES

GEAN PROPERTY BOTTATED ALSO PLOND-ORDERMON Dracause Dontacia Department of Incommitty, Middlews Hospital Medical School, London W1P 1993

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ISLET-CELL ANTIBODIES IN DEADETES Innites where dathetes principle with puttinenus dynaiditis, georicis, advocalitis with or without hyper-genation, and with idequalitic hyperpendentlyreidam. Many of these parletes had overt T-cell defects with

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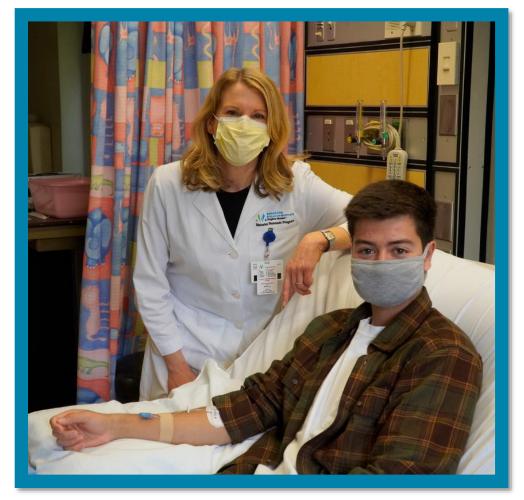
#### Materials and Matheols

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#### **1974:** Lancet publishes evidence that T1D is an autoimmune disease!

# Where are we now and where are we headed?



### **Update on research progress for:**

- Individuals with New-Onset T1D
- Family members of those with T1D
- Individuals with Longstanding T1D



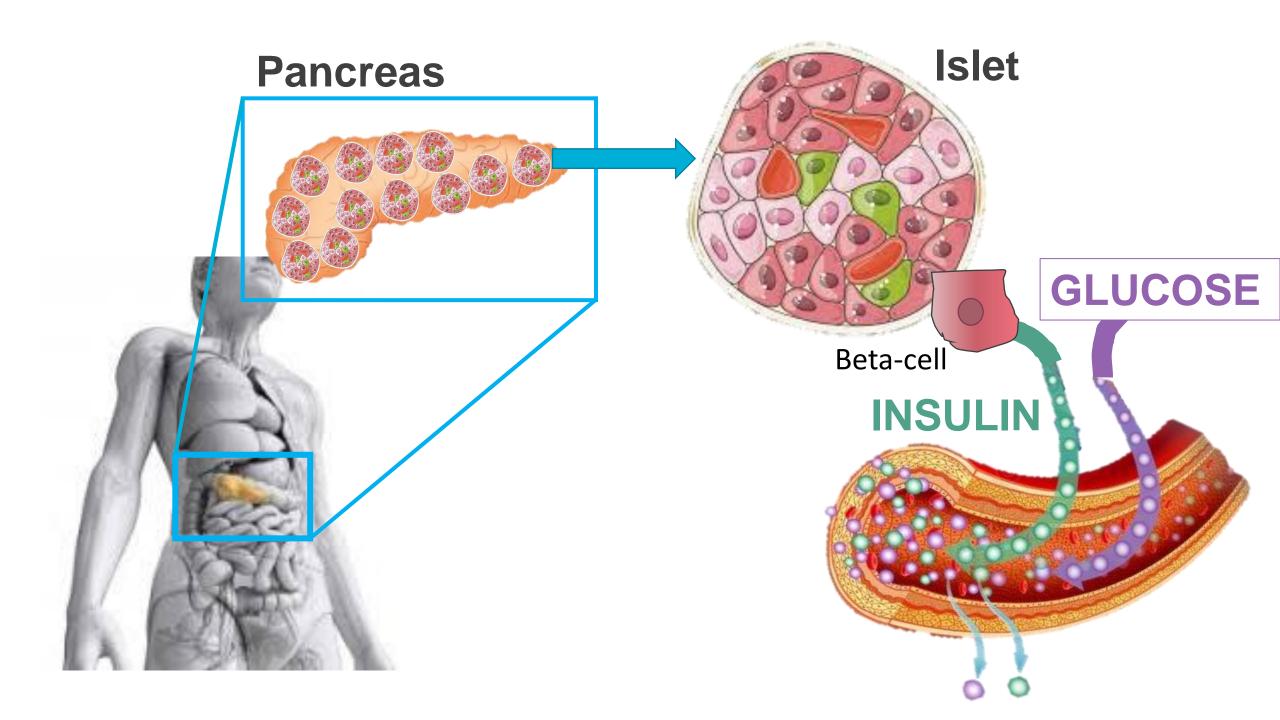


# What questions might someone have immediately after receiving a T1D diagnosis?

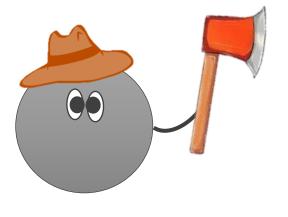
#### When poll is active, respond at PollEv.com/honestcookie180 Text HONESTCOOKIE180 to 22333 once to join

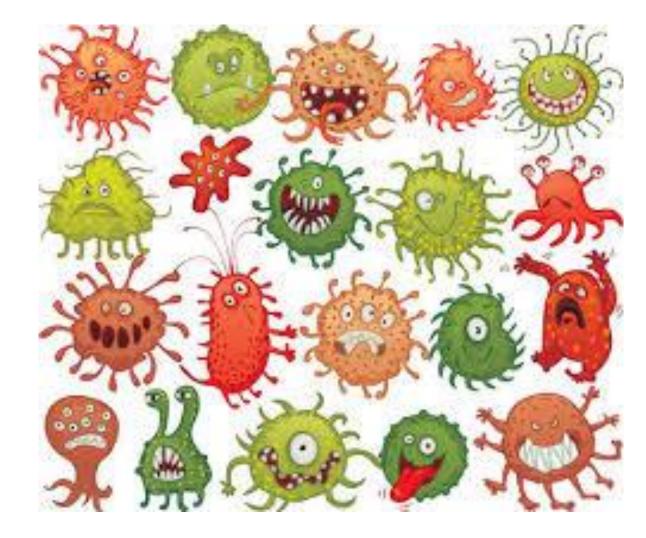
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T cells protect us against infections and foreign organisms

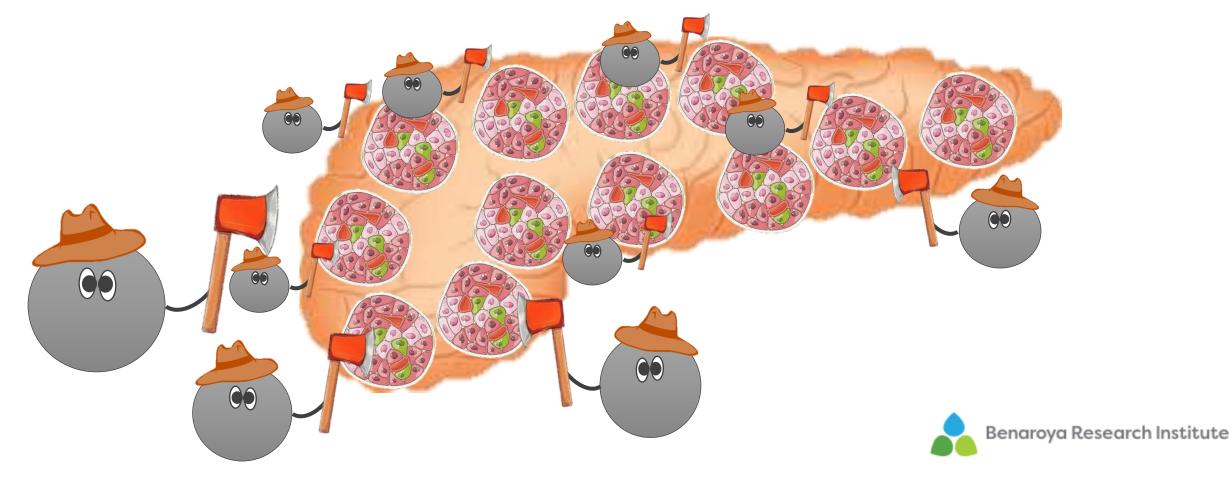


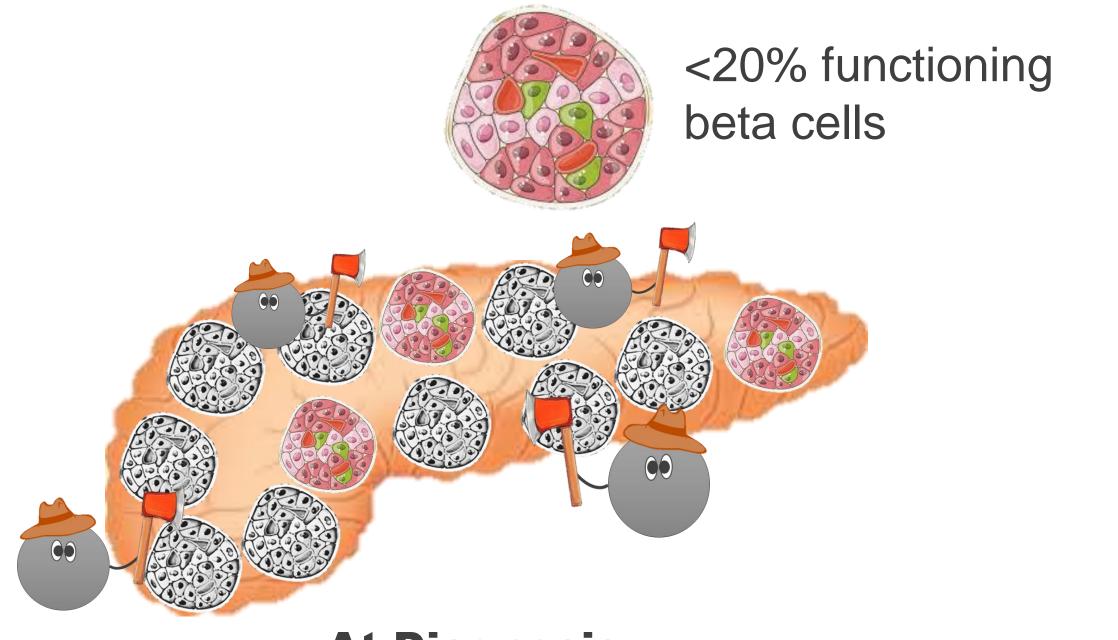






In T1D, T cells attack beta-cells as if they are foreign. This attack may begin years before symptoms develop.



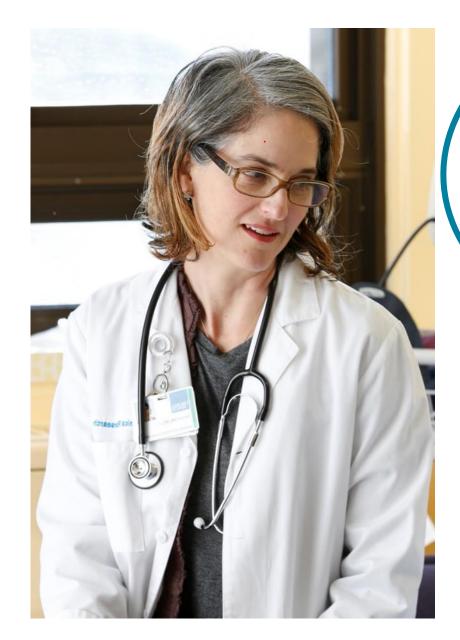


**At Diagnosis** 



What did *we* do **WRONG**?

It is an autoimmune disease. You did nothing wrong.



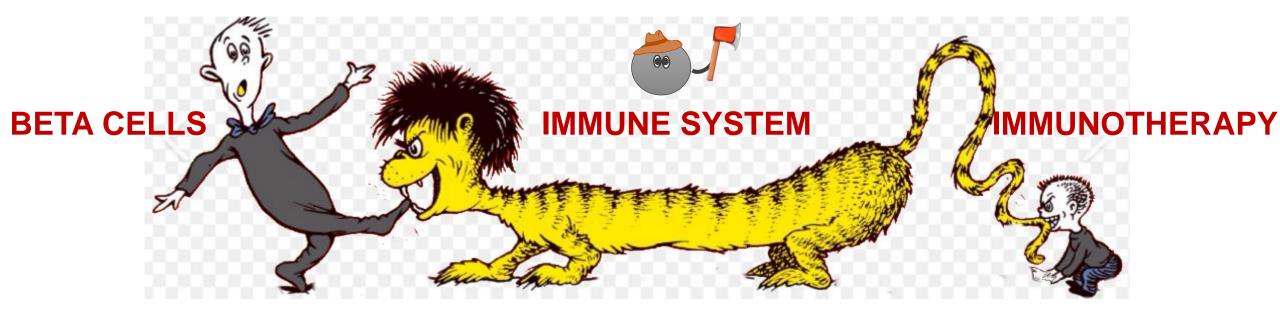
Can we do anything to help save the beta cells she still has?

# Immunotherapy trials aimed at saving beta cells in new onset T1D have been done since the 1980s





## Why Immunotherapy for T1D?





## How do we select therapies to test to preserve remaining beta cells?

- Therapies that work in other autoimmune diseases
- Using known therapies in new ways (i.e. combinations)
- Novel, cutting edge therapies with strong scientific support



## Scientific support from mouse models is imperfect



- Over 700 ways to prevent or reverse diabetes in mouse models
- Immune systems of mice differ greatly from those of humans
- Efficacy does not always translate

#### Therapies that Cure T1D in Mice:

Androgen Anesthesia Azathioprine Anti-B7-1 Bacille Calmette Gue'rin (BCG) Baculofin β-1,6;1,3-D-glucan Anti-ß 7 integrin Blocking peptide of MHC class II Bone marrow transplantation Castration Anti-CD3 Anti-CD4 Anti-CD8 Anti-CD28 Cholera toxin-B subunit Cold exposure Anti-complement receptor Complete Freund's adjuvant Anti-CTLA-4 Cyclosporin Cyclosporin A Dapsome (4,4'-diaminodiphenyl sulfone) Deflazacort Dendritic cells from pancreatic lymph node Deoxysperogualin Diazoxide 1,25 dihydroxyl Vitamin D3 Elevated temperature Encephalomyocarditis virus (ECMV) Escherichia coli extract

Essential fatty acid-deficient diets FK506 Galium nitrate Glucose (neonatal) Glutamic acid decarboxylase -intraperitoneal, intrathymic, intravenous, oral Glutamic acid decarboxylase peptides -intraperitoneal, intrathymic, intravenous, oral Gonadectomy Heat shock protein 65 Heat shock protein peptide (p277) Anti-ICAM-1 Immobilization Immunoglobulin (IgG2a) Anti-integrin alpha 4 Inomide Insulin -intraperitoneal, oral, subcutaneous, nasal Insulin B chain/B chain amino acids 9-23 -intraperitoneal, oral, subcutaneous, nasal Insulin-metabolically inactive Insulin-like growth factor I Interferon- $\alpha$ Anti-interferon-y Interferon-y receptor Interleukin-1 Interleukin-1 receptor

Interleukin-2 Interleukin-2 receptor fusion toxin (DAB480-IL-2) Interleukin-3 Interleukin-4 Interleukin-10 Interleukin-12 antagonist Islet cells-intrathymic Lactate dehydogenase virus (LDH) Lactobacilus casei Lazaroid Linomide Lithium chloride Anti-LFA-1 Anti-L-selectin Lymphocyte choriomeningitis virus (LCMV) Anti-lymphocyte serum/lymphotoxin Lymphocyte vaccination LZ8 MDL 29311 Melatonin Anti-MHC class I Anti-MHC class II Mixed allogeneic chimerism Monosodium glutamate Murine hepatitis virus (MHV) Mycobacterium Natural antibodies Nicotinamide Nutramigen OK432

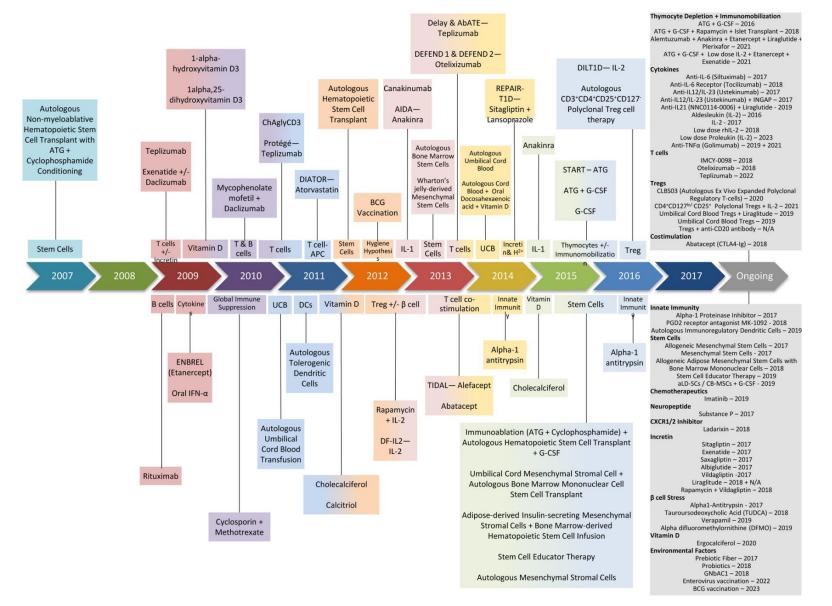
Overcrowding Pancreatectomy Pentoxifylline Pertussigen Poly [I:C] Pregestimil diet Probucol Prolactin Rampamycin Reg protein Rolipram Saline (repeated injection) Semi-purified diet (AIN-76) Silica Sodium fusidate Somatostatin Non-specific pathogen free conditions Streptococcal enterotoxins (SEA) Superantigens Superoxide dismutasedesferrioxamine TGF-B Anti-T-cell receptor Anti-thy-1 Thymectomy (neonatal) T-lymphocyte clones Tolbutamide Troglitazone Tumor necrosis factor-α Tumor necrosis factor-B Vitamin E

Anti-VLA-4

## **Immunotherapy trials in humans**

It is estimated that over **20,000 people** 

have participated in prevention/preservation trials since the early1980s when the first trial was done with cyclosporine

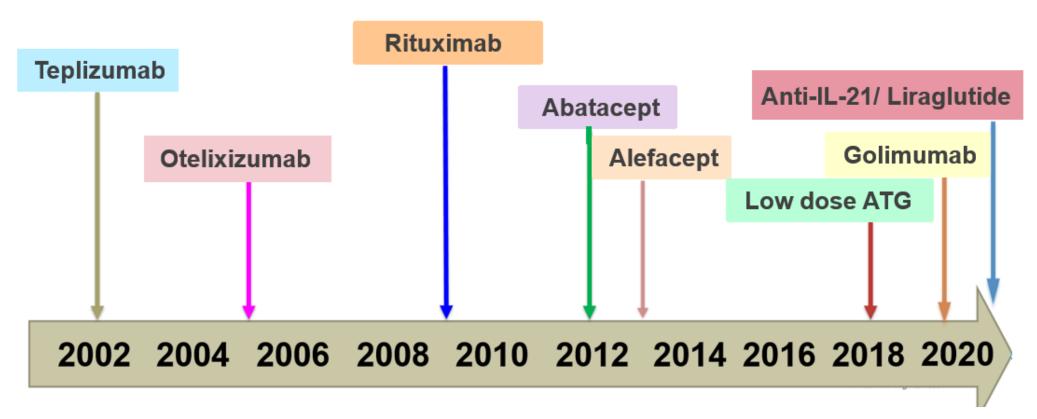


\*From Atkinson et al., Lancet D & E, 2019

# How many different therapies have been effective in saving beta cell function in people with newly-diagnosed T1D?

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## 8 immunotherapies have been effective!



- All studies done in new-onset T1D
- Therapies prolonged beta cell function for 6 months to 2 years



## Trials enrolling those with new-onset T1D

#### **CURRENTLY ENROLLING AT BRI:**

DESIGNATE

**Eligibility:** Diagnosed within the past 18 months, Ages 18-45

**Treatment**: 12 weekly injections of **Siplizumab** 

4 possible arms with varying doses of Siplizumab



COBRA STUDY

Eligibility: Diagnosed within the past **3 years**, Ages 18-45

**Treatment**: 3 infusions of **Vedolizumab** with or without 8 weekly injections of **Etanercept** 

No Placebo Group



**TOPPLE STUDY** 

Eligibility: Diagnosed within the past 4 years, Ages 18-45

**Treatment**: **Plasmid Therapy** via weekly injection for 12 weeks

3:1 randomization



## Most new-onset studies pay for travel!





Can we do anything to help save the beta cells she still has?

Many therapies *can* preserve beta cell function after diagnosis but nothing is FDA approved yet. Trials for newly-diagnosed people are enrolling!

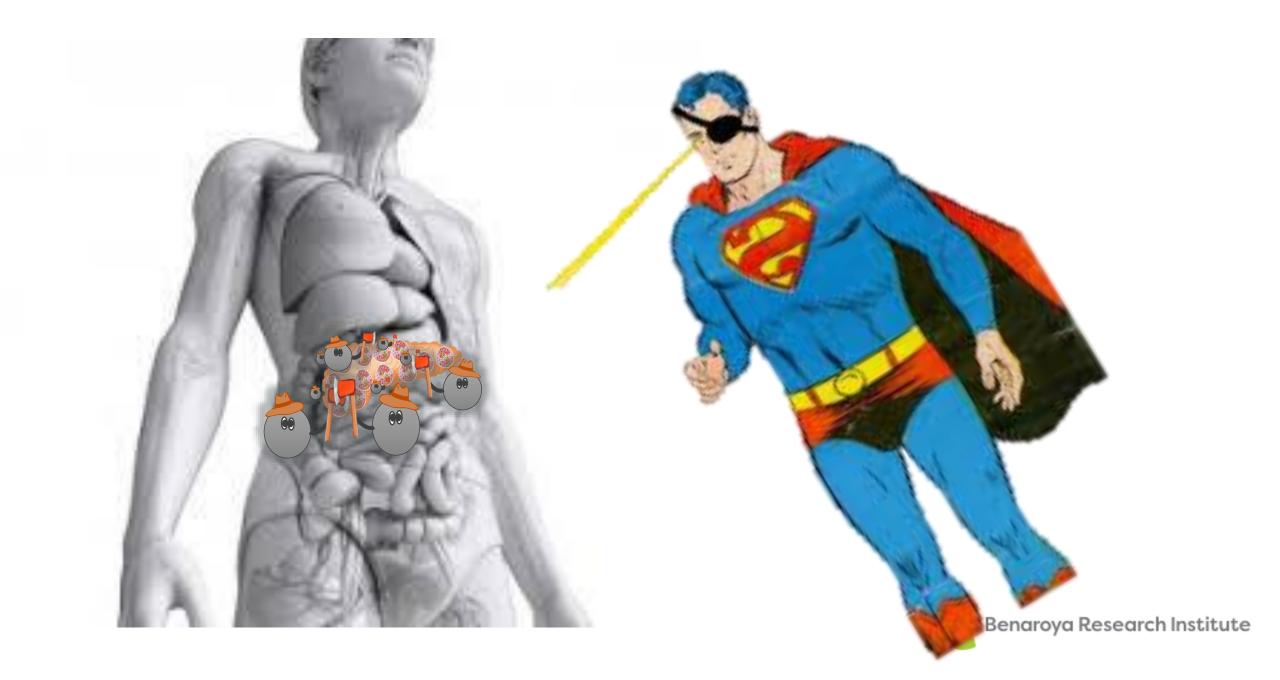


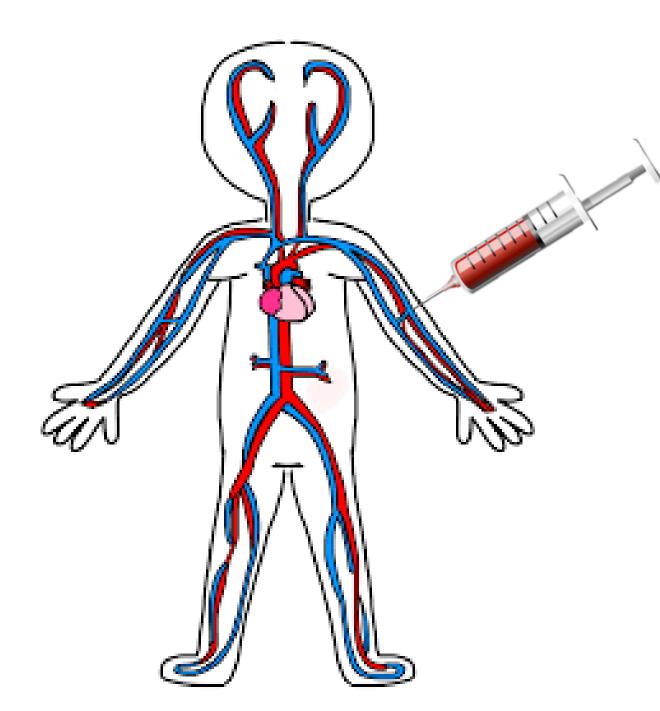


Could we have known about her T1D **earlier**?



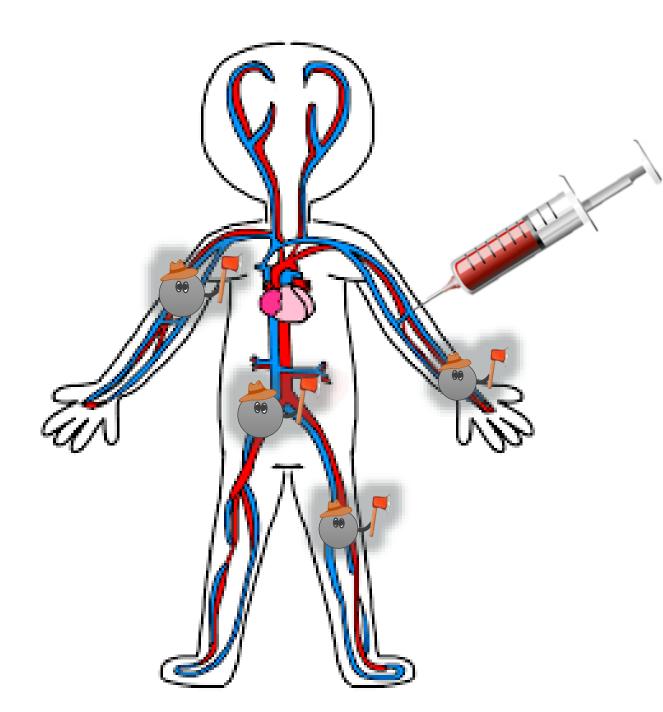






The only window we currently have into the pancreas is through a blood test.

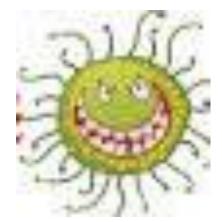


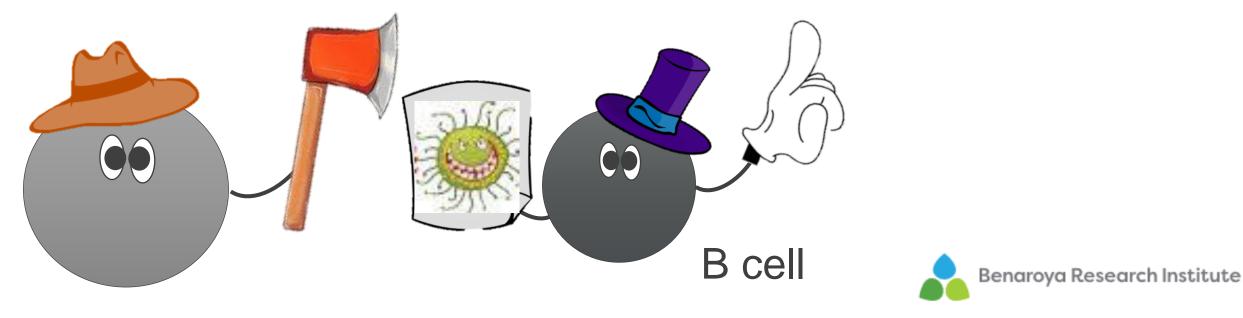


Too few circulating islet-attacking T cells to detect easily on a blood test



B cells help direct T cells to where they are needed





In T1D, B cells send wrong messages and direct T cells to the islets

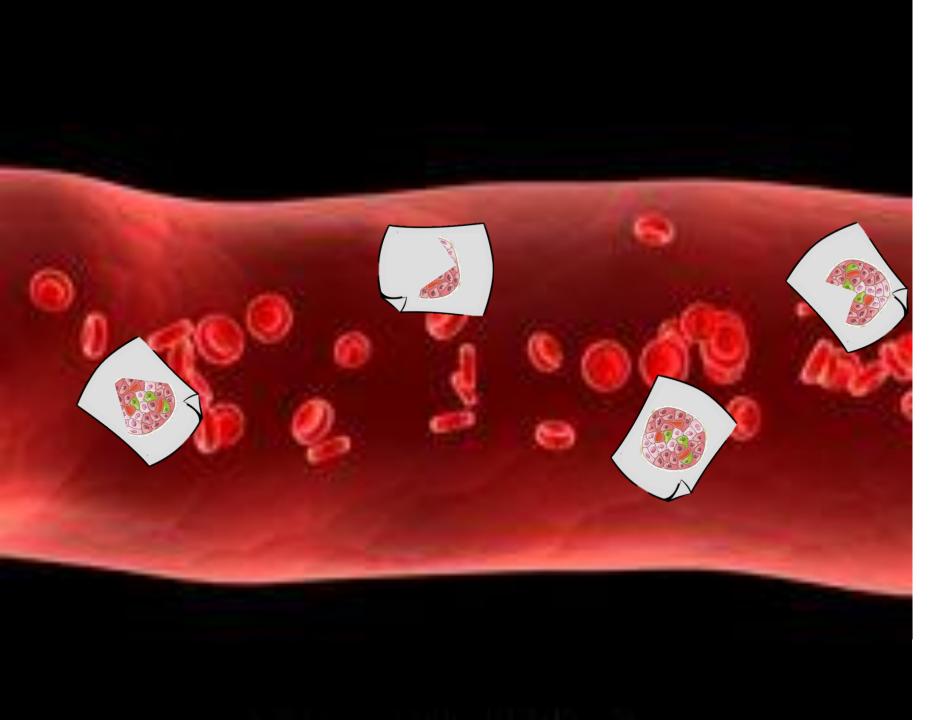
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cell

B

(0)





Evidence of these wrong messages can be found in the bloodstream



### What are these "wrong messages" called?

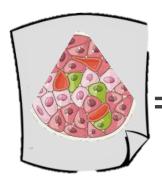
Cytotoxic T-Cells

**Diabetes Autoantibodies** 

Immunoglobulins

Autoimmune antigens

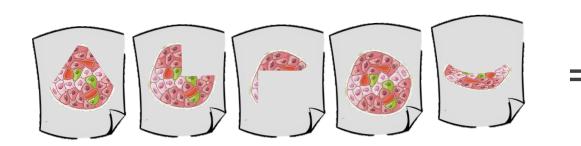
**Bad News** 

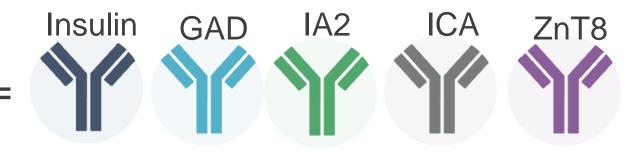


## = diabetes autoantibodies



95% of children who develop T1D before puberty have antibodies by age 5





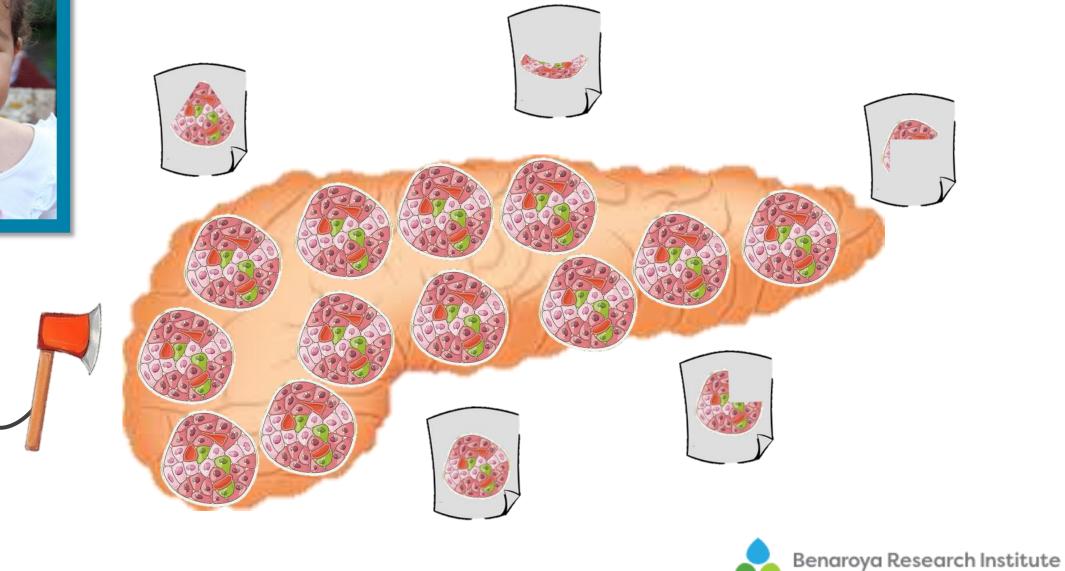
# There are 5 autoantibodies associated with T1D so far





(0)

### Autoantibodies appear many years before diagnosis



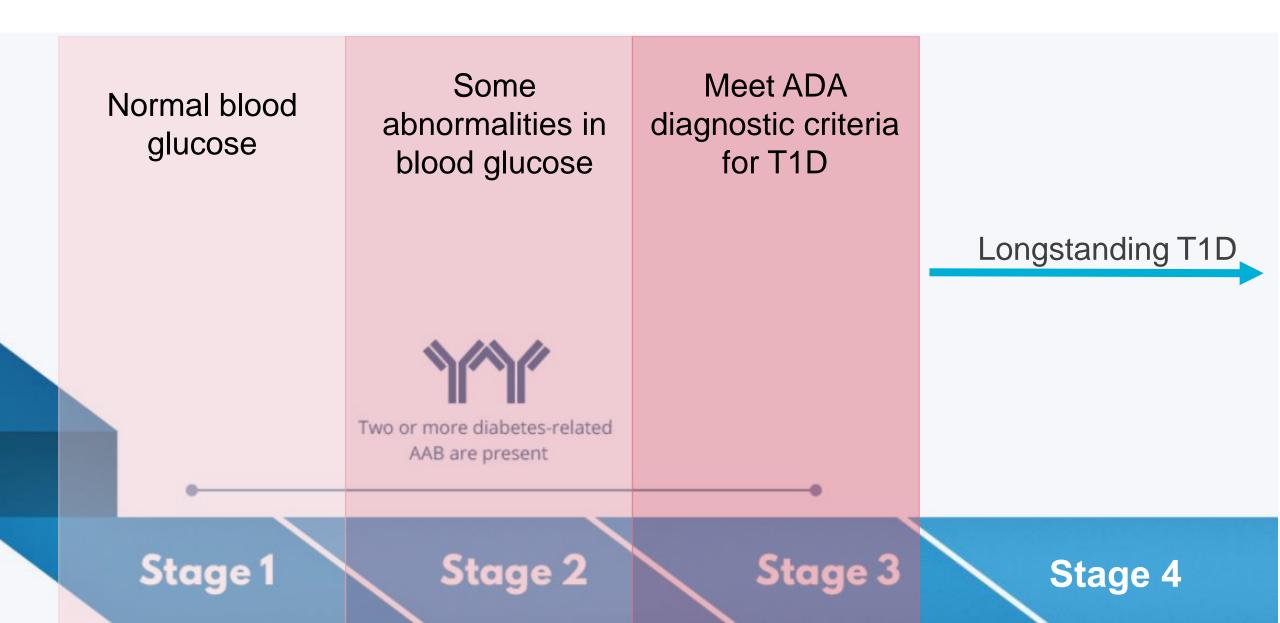
## If you test positive for at least 2 autoantibodies, what is your chance of developing symptomatic T1D over the course of your lifetime?

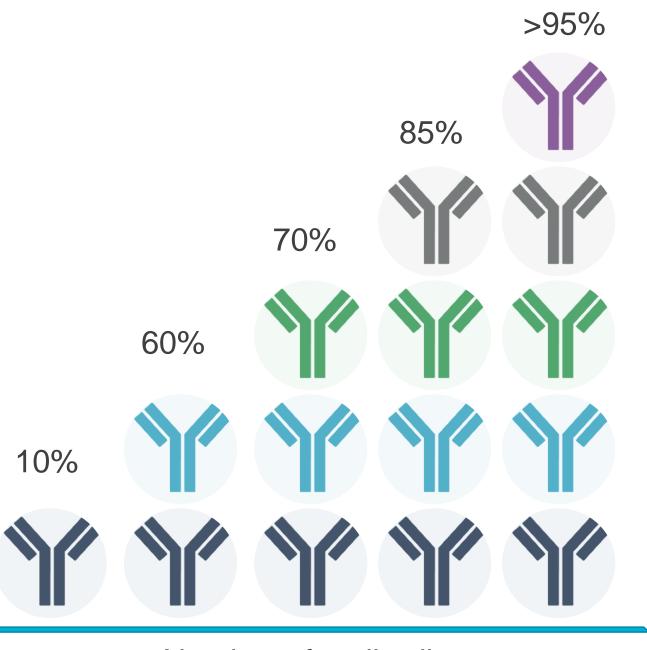


If you test positive for at least 2 diabetes autoantibodies, you have ~100% chance of developing symptomatic T1D over the course of your lifetime

This is Stage 1 T1D!

## What are the stages of T1D?





More *types* of islet autoantibodies = greater likelihood of developing clinical diabetes



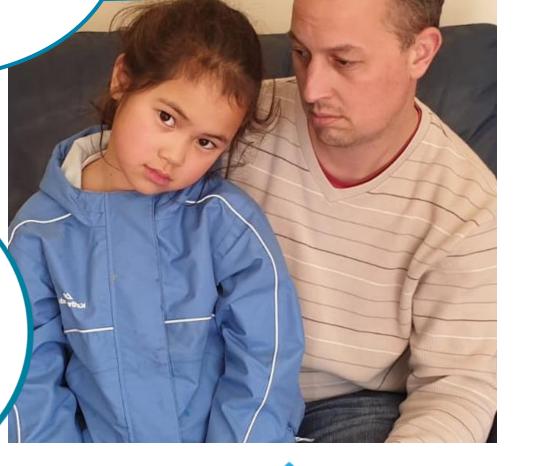
Number of antibodies

## Impact of AGE on Disease Progression

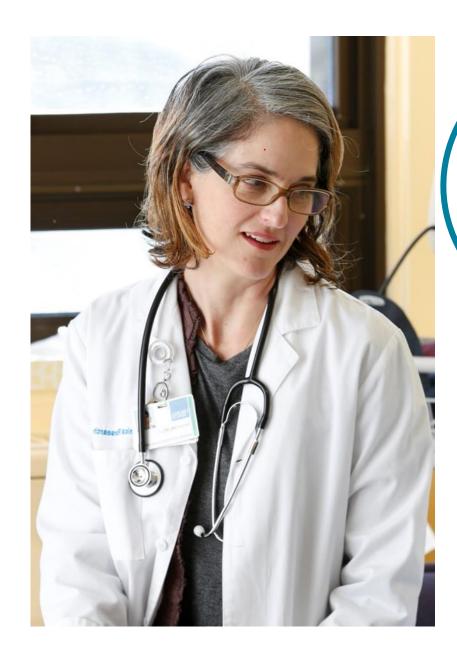


Could we have known this earlier?

We can now detect T1D before symptoms develop by testing for diabetes autoantibodies







Since I have a child with T1D....

...are my other family members at risk??



# What is the lifetime risk of T1D in family members of those with T1D?

# 1 in 100 1 in 20 1 in 50 1 in 5 None of the above



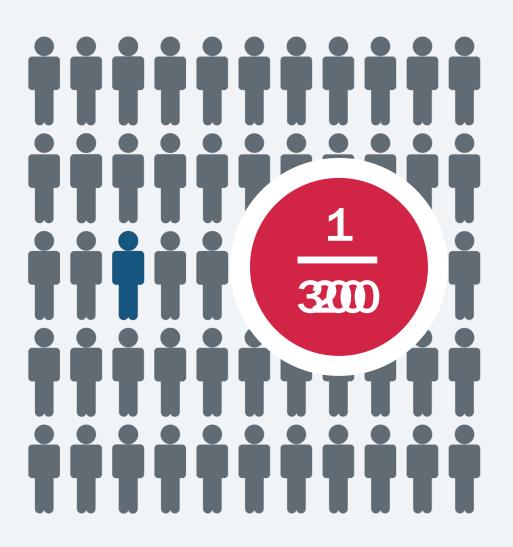
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# T1D risk in family members

#### **Genetic Risk**

- General population risk is 1 in 300
- If you have a family member with T1D, your risk is 1 in 20

Family members are at 15x greater risk to develop T1D



### Because of this elevated risk, family members are eligible for FREE autoantibody screening through TrialNet and other programs







# How can family members be screened?

## Visit the TrialNet table!

Screening will be available until 4:00 pm TODAY ONLY

Who can be screened:

- Anyone age 2.5 through 45 years with a sibling, child or parent with T1D.
- Anyone age 2.5 through 20 years with a sibling, child, parent, cousin, uncle, aunt, niece, nephew, grandparent or half-sibling with T1D.

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Visit www.TrialNet.org



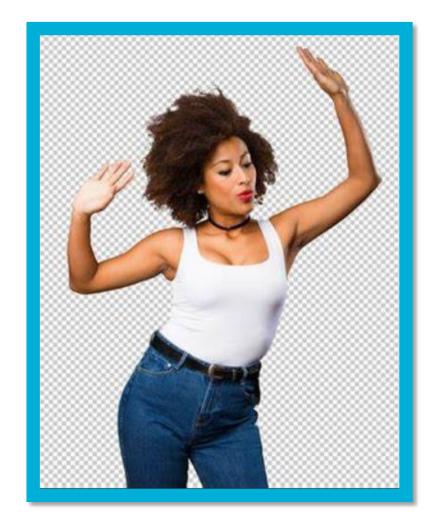
## What if I test positive for autoantibodies?

#### MONITOR CLOSELY FOR DISEASE PROGRESSION

- HbA1c, oral glucose tolerance test, and autoantibody testing every 6-12 months at a TrialNet clinic (BRI is one!)
- Lowers risk of DKA at diagnosis
- Lowers HbA1c at diagnosis
- Decreases chance of hospitalization

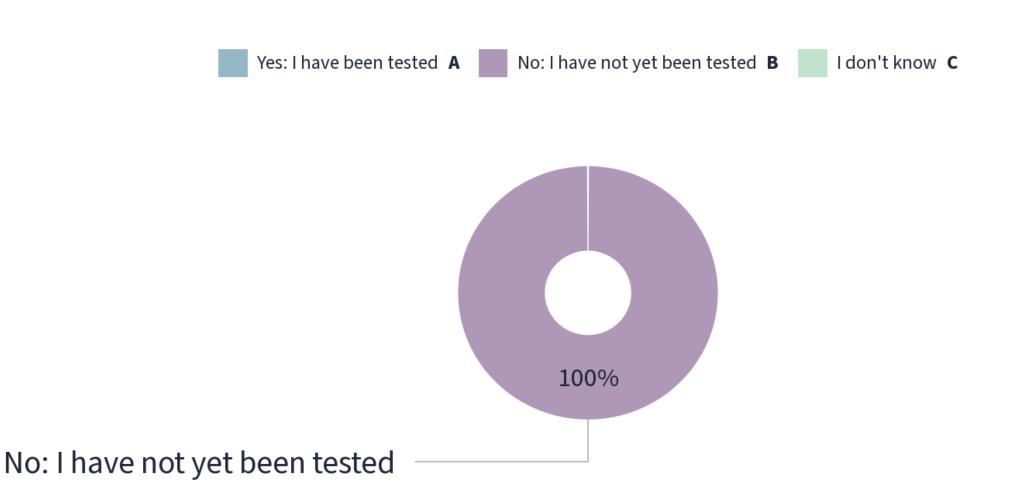
#### • EARLY DETECTION ALLOWS FOR EARLY INTERVENTION

- Refer to endocrinologist as soon as insulin is needed
- May offer treatment with therapies aimed saving beta cell function....





# If you have a family member with T1D, have you been tested for autoantibodies?



Start the presentation to see live content. For screen share software, share the entire screen. Get help at pollev.com/app

Since I have a child with T1D....

...are my other family members at risk??

Yes! Your other family members are at higher risk and you should consider screening for autoantibodies

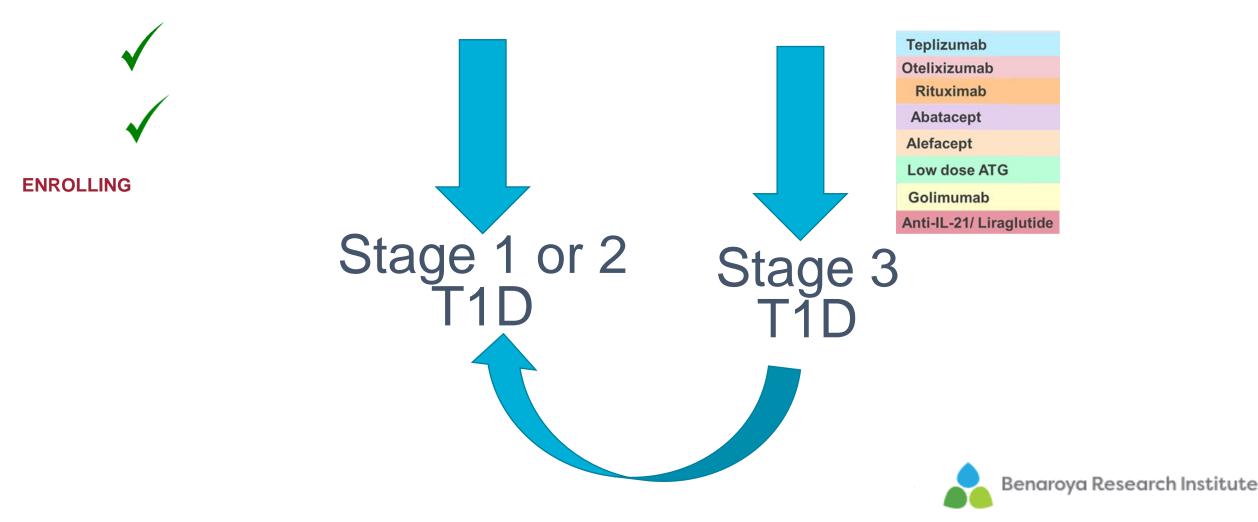


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If my family members test positive for antibodies, can we do anything for them to prevent T1D?



# Will therapies that work in new-onset T1D be more effective if we give them before symptoms develop?



# We already have an FDA-Approved drug to slow diabetes progression before symptoms develop

#### True



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# TRUE! We have already successfully delayed progression from Stage 2 to Stage 3 T1D



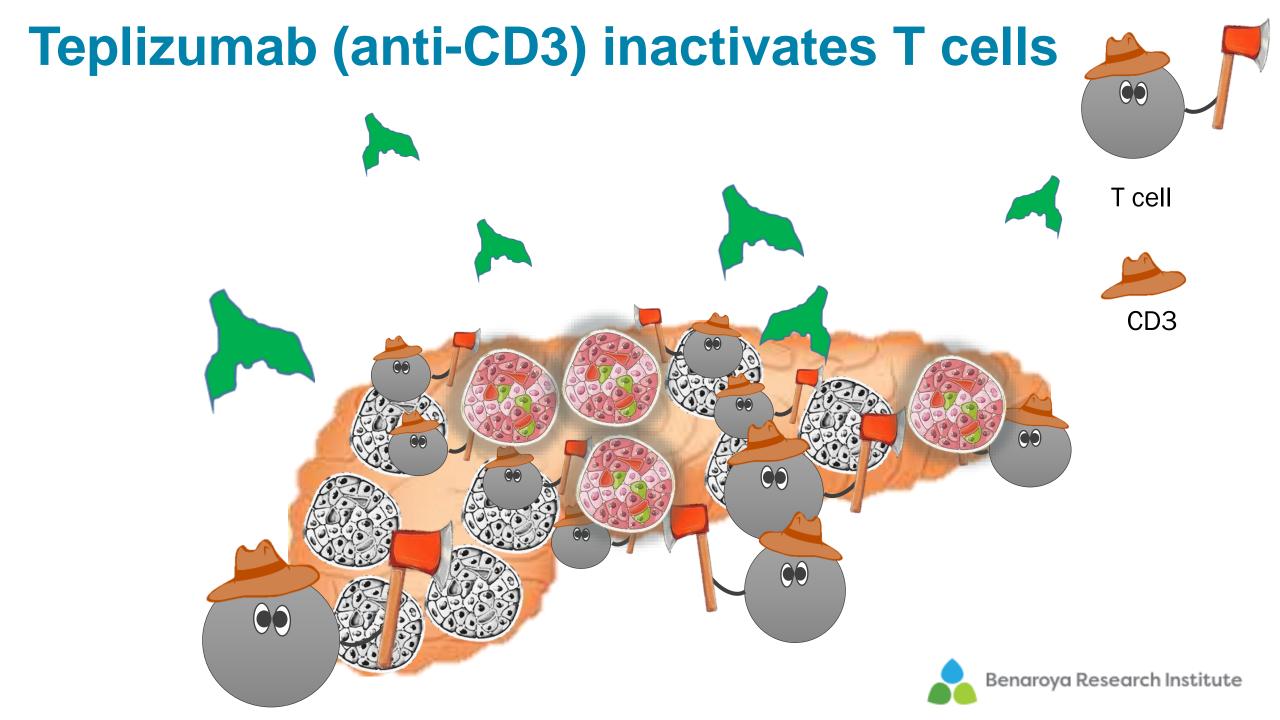
The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

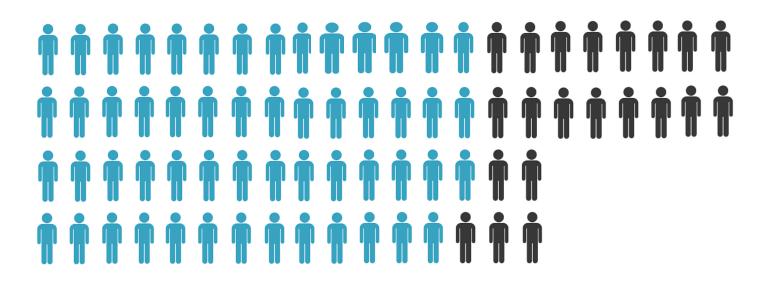
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

An Anti-CD3 Antibody, Teplizumab, in Relatives at Risk for Type 1 Diabetes Kevan C. Herold, M.D., Brian N. Bundy, Ph.D., S. Alke Ord, Ph.D., Jeffrey A. Bluestone, Ph.D., Linda A. DiMedia, M.D. Mathow J. Dufort, Ph.D., Stephen E. Gitelman, M.D., Peter M. Gotton, M.D., Jeffrey P. Krischer, Ph.D., Peter S. Linsky, Ph.D. Ortfer S. Marks, M.D., Wayne Moore, M.D., Ph.D., Antionette Moran M.D., Henry Rodriguez, M.D., William E. Russell, M.D., Diane K. Wherrett, M.D., Jay S. Skyler, M.D., Eva Tsalikian, M.D., Diane K. Wherrett, M.D., Anette-Gabriele Ziegler, M.D., and Carla J. Greenbaum, M.D., for the Type 1 Diabetes TrialNet Study Group.\*

TrialNet Winter 2021

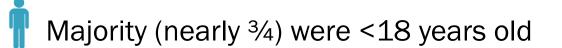






•Relatives of people with T1D

•2 or more antibodies AND abnormal glucose tolerance

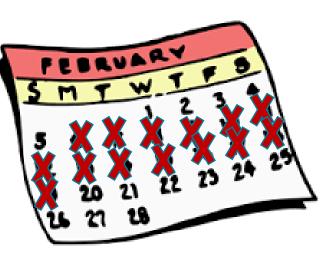


inter 2021

Slide courtesy of Michelle So, MD, PhD







Participants received 14 days of infusions of Teplizumab or placebo

Follow-up for average of 2-3 years



## Study showed a big delay in T1D in the first year

# 

#### **Clinical T1D**

44%

7%

## 

Ongoing follow-up showed 3-year delay in development of T1D!

Slide courtesy of Michelle So, MD, PhD



# A Big Step

**Only study ever** to demonstrate that onset of T1D can be delayed

November, 2022- FDA APPROVED Teplizumab (Tzield) for T1D prevention!

First immunotherapy EVER approved to prevent an autoimmune condition

https://www.tzield.com/ for more information on accessing the medication







## **New Prevention Trial Now Enrolling**





**STOP-T1D: ATG Prevention Study** 

**Eligibility:** Ages 12 to 35, positive for 2 or more autoantibodies, abnormal blood sugar, high risk marker such as A1c between 5.7 and 6.4%

**Treatment**: 2 ATG or placebo infusions over 2 consecutive days

- Each infusion will take between 6 and 10 hours
- Must stay overnight at the treatment center for observation



If my family members test positive for antibodies, can we do anything for them to prevent T1D?

We have already delayed T1D with Teplizumab, and it is now FDA-approved! Other diabetes prevention trials are enrolling.



My cousin Pete also has T1D, but he's had it for over 20 years. Are there any therapies that could help his body to make insulin again?



# For those in the room with T1D, how many years has it been since you were diagnosed?

Less than 1 year 1-4 years 5-10 years 10-20 years 20-30 years 30-50 years more than 50 years

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### Therapeutic goals for those with longstanding T1D:

#### **BETA CELL REPLACEMENT**



#### **BETA CELL PROTECTION**

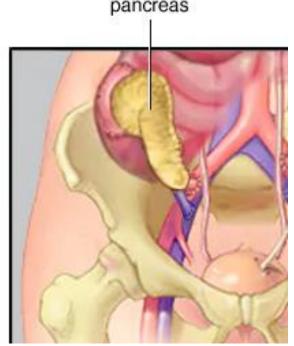




# Human pancreas transplants have been done since 1960s

- Most patients able to stop insulin therapy immediately after transplantation
- 50-60% remain insulin-independent 10 years after transplant
- Patients require life-long anti-rejection medications which have side effects
- Surgery is not without risks
- Only~1,500 pancreases are recovered from donors each year; many aren't suitable for transplant
- Only one pancreas available per 1000 patients with T1D in the US

### Supply simply cannot meet demand.....



Donor

### We need an unlimited source of beta cells!





## Vertex trial: Beta cells from stem cells



Douglas A Melton, PhD, along with wife Gail and children, Sam and Emma



Melton with one dose of VX-880 Stem cell-derived islet cell replacement therapy



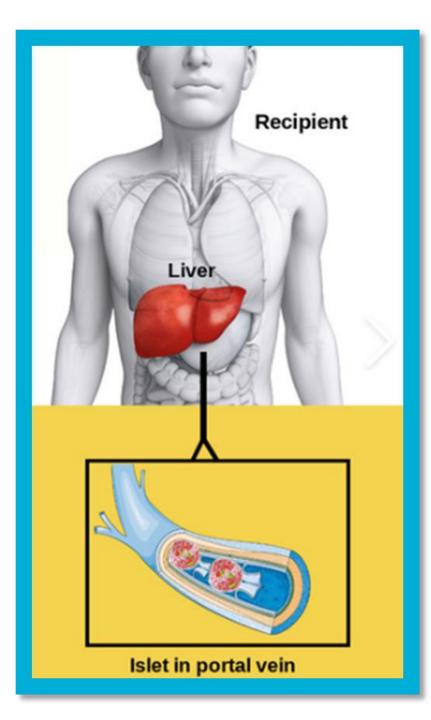
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## Treatment



- VX-880 production: stem cells are stimulated in the lab to become insulin-producing beta cells
- Human dose: 400 million beta cells (one vial)
- Treatment is infused into the portal vein and cells take up residence in the liver
- Participants remain in the hospital for 1-2 weeks for pre-treatment care, infusion, monitoring, and initiation of immunosuppressant therapy

#### VX-880 Beta Cell transplant recipients currently require lifelong immunosuppression to protect the cells



## **Results in first participant**



Brian Shelton, 64, first to receive VX-880

"It's a whole new life," Mr. Shelton said. "It's like a miracle."

- So far, three patients have received infusions of VX-880
- 270 days after receiving his infusion:
  - Brian no longer required any injected insulin
  - His HbA1c dropped from 8.6% to 5.2%
  - His insulin production levels were in the non-diabetic range



VX-880 Beta Cell transplant recipients currently require lifelong immunosuppression to protect the cells

# Would you trade the need for lifelong insulin therapy for the need for lifelong immunosuppression?

Yes

No

Start the presentation to see live content. For screen share software, share the entire screen. Get help at pollev.com/app

### How else can we protect transplanted cells?

### Encapsulation



Gene Editing



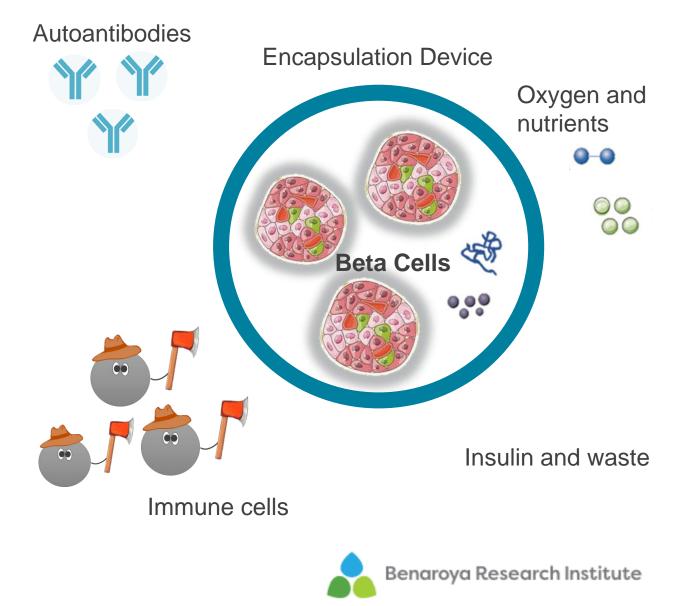
We can put the cells in a device that will protect them from the immune system We can edit the beta cells' DNA so that they will be unrecognizable by the immune system





## How does encapsulation work?

- Islet encapsulation provides a selectively permeable barrier between host and beta cells
- Device is surgically implanted
- No concomitant systemic immunosuppression
- Some of the devices provide localized immunosuppression

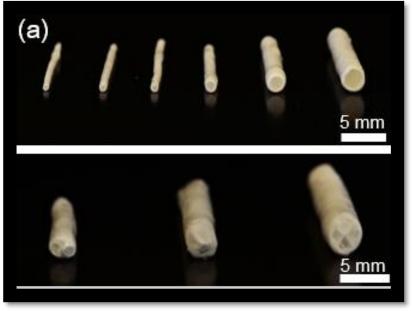


# Many groups developing encapsulation devices

#### Sernova



#### Cornell's NEED device



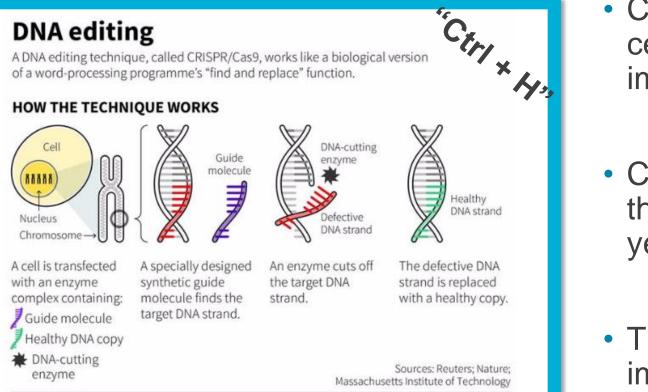
Viacyte



- Implanted under the skin in the fat tissue
- Beta cells may be introduced before or after the device is implanted and vascularized
- Some devices have wells for localized immunosuppressants



## **Cell protection: Gene-editing**



**R** ISPF

THERAPEUTICS

- Can we edit genes in manufactured beta cells to make them "invisible" to the immune system?
- Clinical trial of gene-edited stem cell therapy product, VCTX-210, started this year in Canada
- Therapy is intended to be used **without** immunosuppressive therapies



## Other Ideas: Beta Cell Proliferation or Xenotransplantation



### Maike Sander, M.D., UCSD

- Dr. Maike Sander has developed an agent that can make beta cells proliferate
- Working on a targeted drug delivery system technology that can deliver therapies directly to human beta cells
- Currently being tested in mouse models of T1D



### **University of Alberta**

- Attempts at full pancreas xenotransplantation have not been successful throughout history (cows, pigs, sheep, rabbits, fish have been trialed...)
- Team can successfully isolate beta cells from human pancreases and transplant them into people with T1D
- Team working on developing a safe source of islets from neonatal pigs

## **BRIDGE Study**

#### For **ANYONE** with a T1D diagnosis

- Initial blood sample drawn:
  - checked for genes associated with T1D
  - Autoantibodies measured
  - Participant may be asked to return when a scientist needs more blood from someone who matches his/her/their profile





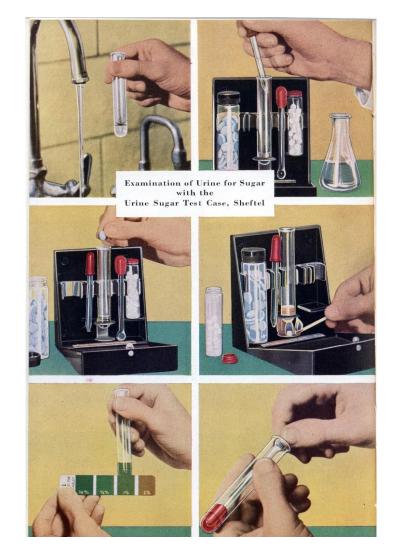
To schedule an appointment, Email: diabetes@benaroyaresearch.org



My cousin has had T1D for over 20 years. Are there any therapies that could help his body to make insulin again?

Maybe! We need people like him to participate in studies so that we can find out!





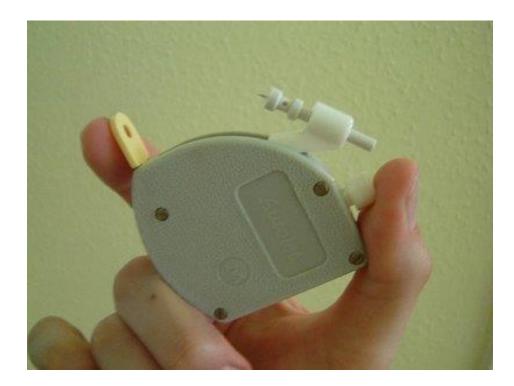


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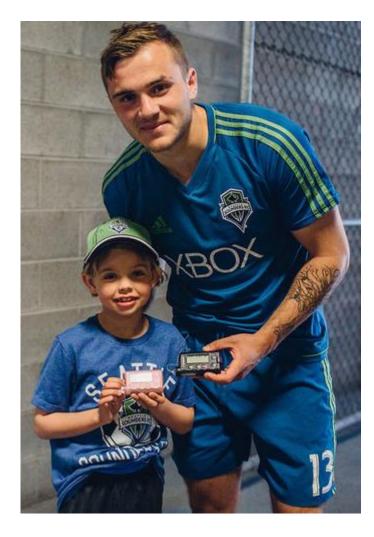


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jwskks5786. (n.d.). Free Image—Insulin Pump. Retrieved March 12, 2021, from https://pixabay.com/photos/diabetes-insulin-pump-diabetic-2102239/





Benaroya Research Institute

New-York Historical Society | Breakthrough: The Dramatic Story of the Discovery of Insulin. (n.d.). [Photo of mother and child]. Retrieved March 12, 2021, from https://www.nyhistory.org/exhibitions/breakthrough-dramatic-story-discovery-insulin

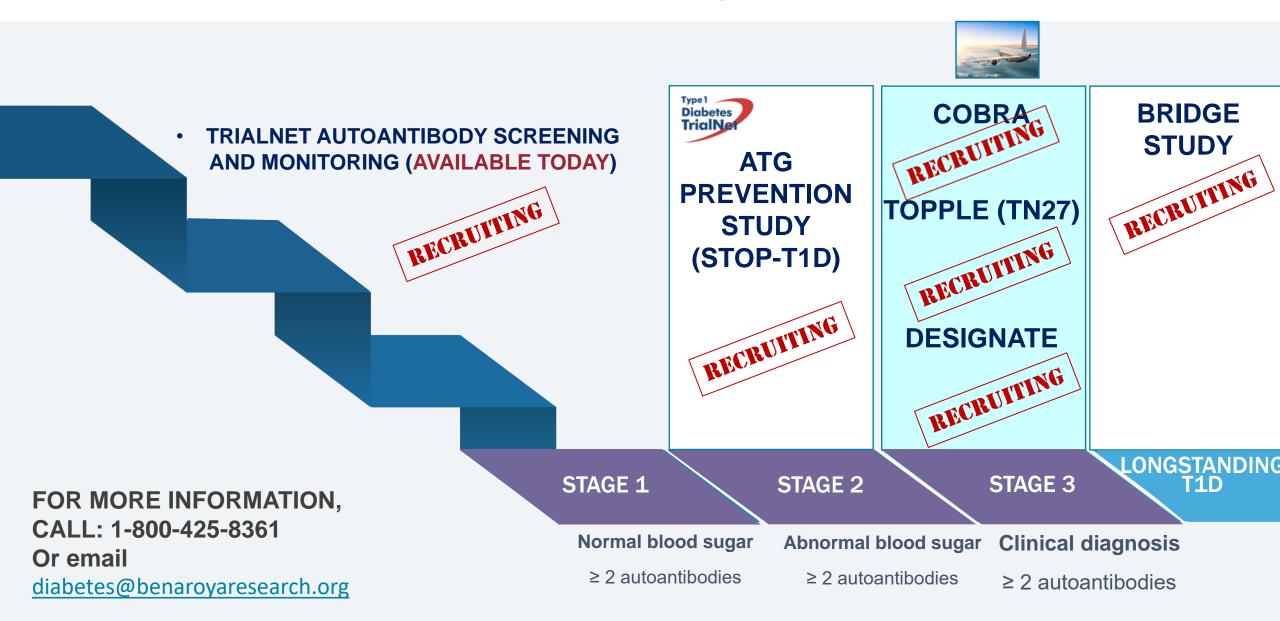
Your child has type 1 diabetes

But, we have therapies to preserve the beta-cells she still has *and* we can consider beta cell transplantation or proliferation therapies. Here is what we're going to do next...

# We have research participants to thank for ALL of these advances! Friends for life changing lives...



### **Studies available at Benaroya Research Institute**



## **QR code for those interested in research!**



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Benaroya Research Institute: BenaroyaResearch.org 800-888-4147 diabetes@benaroyaresearch.org



"Life doesn't always get better. But you do. You get stronger. You get wiser. You get softer. With tattered wings you rise. And the world watches in wonder at the breathless beauty of a human who survived life."

--L.R. Knost



Taylor Adams, pediatric ICU nurse, person with T1D!





## FAMILY SCIENCE DAY

Saturday, April 22 9am - 1pm Benaroya Research Institute

**Come and meet a real scientist!** Fun hands-on activities for kids, hosted by youth leaders who are living with type 1 diabetes (T1D).

A chance for adults to talk with local researchers and ask your questions about T1D and research.

TrialNet risk screening for families who want to know their risk of developing T1D. This test is free for eligible family members.

For more info, call 800-888-4187 or email diabetes@benaroyaresearch.org

