Emergency Guide: Switching Back to Insulin Injections

If you need to stop using your insulin pump, follow these steps to safely return to injections.

Record Your Pump Settings

Always keep a written copy of your current pump settings. You'll need:

- V Total daily basal insulin dose
- Insulin-to-carbohydrate ratio
- Correction factor (insulin sensitivity)

Calculate Your Background (Basal) Dose

Use your total daily basal insulin amount.

• Using Lantus: Take the full daily basal dose once a day.

Calculate Your Mealtime (Bolus) Dose

Use your insulin-to-carb ratio to calculate how much insulin to take with food.

Example:

Ratio: 1 unit per 20g of carbs

• Meal: 80g of carbs

• Calculation: 80 ÷ 20 = 4 units of insulin

Add a Correction Dose (if needed)

Use your insulin sensitivity factor to correct high blood sugar.

Example:

Sensitivity: 1 unit lowers glucose by 2 mmol/L

• Current blood glucose: 10.3 mmol/L

Target: 6 mmol/L

Difference: 10.3 - 6 = 4.3 mmol/L
Calculation: 4.3 ÷ 2 = 2 units of insulin

Keep this guide with your diabetes supplies for quick access during emergencies