EASD European Association for the Study of Diabetes

EASD STATEMENT OF REGRET

ON THE PLANNED DISCONTINUATION OF KEY HUMAN INSULIN PRODUCTS BY NOVO NORDISK

The European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD) expresses deep regret and concern following Novo Nordisk's decision to discontinue several widely used human insulin products across Europe. The withdrawal of human insulins, both rapid-acting human insulins, intermediate-acting formulations and biphasic mixes will affect many people who have relied on these treatments for decades. These insulins remain essential and effective and support individualized care for people living with diabetes. Also, the use of human rapid-acting insulin in hospital settings for intravenous administration will be affected by this decision and necessitate important adaptations.

The discontinuation of these products is expected to have significant implications for patient care and the healthcare systems that support them. Changing insulins is not a simple substitution. Transitioning to alternative formulations often requires careful dose adjustments, renewed patient training, and intensified glucose monitoring to maintain safety. Without sufficient clinical support, these transitions may increase the risk of hypoglycemia, glycemic instability, and other complications, causing unnecessary stress for patients and added pressure on healthcare providers. This decision may in particular aggravate existing inequalities, particularly affecting vulnerable groups or regions with limited access to newer treatment options. The loss of familiar, long-established insulins undermines treatment continuity and risks eroding patient trust at a time when consistent, equitable access to essential medicines remains a fundamental priority.

EASD calls on Novo Nordisk to work closely with patient representatives, clinicians, and European regulators to develop a clear and transparent transition plan that ensures that no individual is left without a safe, affordable and suitable alternative. We urge regulators and national health authorities to monitor supply of alternatives closely, provide timely guidance, and support healthcare providers in managing the substantial workload associated with switching patients to other therapies. Protecting vulnerable populations and ensuring fair access across all EU Member States must be central to these efforts.

Prof. Dr. Chantal Mathieu,

on behalf of the Board of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD)

For more details, please see the full update on the European Medicines Agency (EMA) website.

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