



David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

Media Statement

November 28, 2018

\$100 million to support type 1 diabetes patients in Maranoa

The Coalition Federal Government has pledged a further \$100 million to support patients with type 1 diabetes with fully subsidised glucose monitoring devices, Maranoa MP David Littleproud said today.

“In Maranoa, almost 8 per cent of our population are living with type 1 diabetes. This investment will let people get on with their lives and save up to \$7000 a year,” Mr Littleproud said.

“This move will expand free access to glucose monitoring devices through the National Diabetes Services Scheme for pregnant women, children and more adults with type 1 diabetes.

“Type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune disease that attacks a person’s ability to produce insulin. Living with type 1 diabetes is really challenging as you must be able to monitor glucose levels day and night.

“The glucose monitoring devices are very effective as they monitor glucose levels and provide alerts if glucose levels drop too low.

“The ability for people with type 1 diabetes to remotely monitor glucose levels will go a long way toward easing anxiety and improving quality of life.”

Mr Littleproud said the investment was a basic and much-needed measure and would benefit those living with type 1 diabetes in Maranoa.

“This government made a commitment during the 2016 federal election to expand access to glucose monitoring products for children and people aged under 21 years.

“We also lowered patient co-payments for blood glucose test strips, lowered co-payments for insulin pump consumables for concession card holders and expanded the insulin pump program for children from low income families.”

For more information on how eligible people can access these devices will be made available, please visit: www.health.gov.au and <https://www.ndss.com.au/> in early 2019.

FAST FACTS

From March 1, 2019 eligibility for fully subsidised continuous glucose monitoring devices will be expanded under the National Diabetes Services Scheme to include:

- **women with type 1 diabetes who are pregnant, breastfeeding or actively planning pregnancy;**
- **people with type 1 diabetes aged 21 years or older who have concessional status, and who have a high clinical need such as experiencing recurrent severe hypoglycaemic events;**
- **children and young people with conditions similar to type 1 diabetes who require insulin. This includes a range of conditions such as cystic fibrosis related diabetes or neonatal diabetes; and**
- ***FreeStyle Libre* flash glucose monitoring system which sends readings to a user's mobile phone or diabetes management device soon to be introduced to the scheme.**

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