THE PROJECT

The KiDS project was launched in September 2013 by the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) in collaboration with the International Society of Paediatric and Adolescent Diabetes (ISPAD) and Sanofi Diabetes. KiDS pilot projects are ongoing in India and Brazil.

Global Partners

Local partners in Brazil and India

Contact

International Diabetes Federation
kids@idf.org
idf.org/education/kids
T+32-2-5385511- F +32-2-5385114
166 Chaussée de La Hulpe
B-1170 Brussels, Belgium
THE SITUATION

Diabetes in young people

Type 1 diabetes is one of the most common chronic diseases diagnosed in childhood. It affects an estimated 593,000 children under 15 years of age worldwide. It is estimated that almost 86,000 children under 15 years of age develop type 1 diabetes every year.¹

Evidence indicates that the rate of type 2 diabetes, associated with the rising levels of obesity, physical inactivity and unhealthy diets is increasing among children and adolescents around the world at an alarming rate as well.

The KiDS Project

The Kids and Diabetes in School (KiDS) project has identified schools as a crucial setting in the fight against diabetes discrimination. School environments are also key to promoting healthy lifestyles, the prevention of type 2 diabetes and the management of diabetes in general.

Through the culturally adapted KiDS Information Pack and training sessions, the KiDS project aims to foster a safe and supportive school environment that creates a better understanding of diabetes and supports children with this condition. It also provides information about how type 2 diabetes can be prevented by making effective lifestyle choices.

Download the pack - www.idf.org/education/kids


A personal guide for taking action

Politicians
- Advocate to decision-makers you have identified through face to face meetings.
- Send official letters to influential representatives of your government using KiDS key messages.
- Send a petition with evidence-based messages using IDF Diabetes Atlas figures and IDF Scorecard information.

Key Opinion Leaders*
- Ask them to show solidarity with your call to action.
- Ask them to formally support your messages.
- Ask them to connect you with other interested parties.
*e.g. health professionals

General public
- Identify a case of discrimination against children in schools, raise public awareness and ask for accountability from policy makers.
- Work with local media to give the issue a higher public profile.
- Use social media to disseminate your messages to a larger audience.
MAKE YOUR CASE

Ask policy makers to:

- Develop clear legislation and guidance on management of diabetes in schools:
  - Ensure every child with diabetes has an individual healthcare plan at school;
  - Invest in school trainings involving the KiDS pack;
  - Encourage education around healthy living and prevention of type 2 diabetes.
- Involve civil society and relevant government departments to ensure coordinated policy action.

INSPIRE CHANGE

IDF in collaboration with Sanofi and KiDS project partners in Brazil and India want to put diabetes discrimination in schools onto national political agendas. This is your guide for action.

The right message, for the right audience

Figure out opportunities in your political and school environments. Each presents its own unique opportunities. A tailored message will be more interesting to the policy makers you approach.

Use the IDF Diabetes Scorecard to find out the political reality of diabetes in your country - www.idf.org/global-diabetes-scorecard

Use the IDF Diabetes Atlas for data on children with diabetes in your country - www.diabetesatlas.org
Define your audience

- Start to build an advocacy network by contacting your local IDF member - www.idf.org/membership.

- Involve all relevant government stakeholders in your approach. Identify key decision makers in the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Finance and inspire them to work together.

- Find out what other relevant organisations are doing around diabetes in schools. Partnerships can significantly facilitate the exchange of knowledge and expertise.

“Ensuring that a child’s medical needs are met throughout all aspects of their lives, and particularly during their time at school is vital for their social integration – not to mention their health and well-being.”

Giorgios Papanikolaou,
Member of the European Parliament

OUTLINE YOUR MESSAGES

KiDS key messages

- We need to start investing now for a healthy and prosperous tomorrow. By leaving diabetes unmanaged, countries put economic and sustainable development at risk.

- Many children with diabetes face discrimination in the school environment; it affects their self-esteem, productivity and management of their disease.

- Children who are not able to manage their condition safely and securely at school may be at greater risk of complications from diabetes.

- We cannot afford to ignore the preventable risk factors of type 2 diabetes and the affordable solutions for people living with diabetes. Up to 70% of type 2 diabetes can be prevented by investing in healthy lifestyles.

- While type 1 diabetes cannot be prevented, balancing diet is an important part of effectively managing it.

- The KiDS project and information pack will help tackle discrimination in schools and provides teachers and parents with a practical guide to diabetes management.