

USEFUL LINKS

www.hreoc.gov.au
www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/abd
www.austroads.com.au
www.infrastructure.gov.au
www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au
www.diabetesnsw.com.au
www.dav.org.au
www.diabetesqld.org.au
www.diabetessa.com.au
www.diabeteswa.com.au
www.diabetestas.com.au
www.healthylivingnt.org.au
www.diabetes-act.com.au

Ph: (02) 9284 9600
Ph: (02) 9268 5555
Ph: (02) 9264 7088
Ph: (02) 62747111
Ph: (02) 9228 7236
Ph: 1300 136 588
Ph: 1300 136 588
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Acknowledgement:

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www.workplacelaw.com.au

This document has been developed by Diabetes Australia-NSW with input from Diabetes Australia States and Territory Organisations.

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Diabetes Australia-NSW

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If you have diabetes, know your...

RIGHTS and RESPONSIBILITIES

RIGHTS and RESPONSIBILITIES

Now that you have diabetes...

As members of the Australian community we all have certain rights and responsibilities. As a person with diabetes, you now have additional rights and responsibilities. You have a responsibility to lead your own diabetes care, asserting your rights to professional treatment, education and support.

Your Rights as a Person with Diabetes

You have rights to:

- Access professional health services and treatment, including a diabetes educator, dietitian, podiatrist, diabetes specialist, eye specialist, renal specialist and psychologist, if necessary.
- Appropriate medical supplies, including free needles and syringes, pens, pen needles, as well as subsidised blood glucose testing strips through the National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS) (only available to those living in Australia who have, or are eligible to hold, a Medicare card).
- Access to educational information and support (for further information contact your Diabetes Australia State and Territory Organisation on 1300 136 588).
- Be treated fairly, and in a non-discriminatory manner - at school, in the workplace and in the wider community.
- Access to equitable life and health insurance cover (for further information regarding insurance contact your Diabetes Australia State or Territory organisation on 1300 136 588).
- Most civil licences and permits.
- A clear explanation of your condition and treatment.
- Access to an interpreter service if required.

- A second medical opinion about your diabetes if you desire.
- Accept or refuse recommended treatment.

People with diabetes are protected by:

- The anti-discrimination legislation in the States and Territories.
- The Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission Act 1986 (Cth).
- The Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth).
- Section 659 of the Workplace Relations Act 1996 (Cth).

Your Responsibilities as a Person with Diabetes

Are to:

- Take charge of your diabetes with the assistance and advice of your health care team.
- Register with the NDSS in order to access free needles, syringes, pen needles and blood glucose test strips at subsidised prices.
- Ensure regular checks and follow up visits are organised by your GP or Endocrinologist and other members of your health care team.
- While not compulsory, it is advisable to declare your diabetes to your employer. If you fail to do so, you may not be eligible for workers' compensation.
- Carry identification on you at all times, stating that you have diabetes.
- Dispose of sharps in a safe and acceptable manner. (Contact your Diabetes Australia State or Territory Organisation, your local council or pharmacy for further information regarding sharps disposal).
- Find out about any airline regulations/guidelines regarding travelling (especially international) prior to the date of travel.
- Ensure you are fit to drive at any particular time. This requires doing blood glucose readings prior to driving, and if necessary, taking appropriate action. It is your responsibility to ensure you meet the driving standards as set out by Austroads.

See Useful Links, over the page