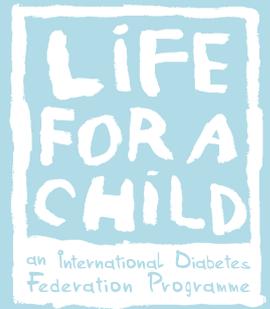


LIFE FOR A CHILD WITH DIABETES

the International Diabetes Federation's child supporting programme



Update n° 24 | July 2013

Children with diabetes marching down one of the main streets of Khartoum on World Diabetes Day



No child should die of diabetes



International Diabetes Federation

in partnership with



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The IDF Life for a Child Programme would like to thank its major donors:



MAURITANIA

Mauritania's *Association Mauritanienne de lutte contre le Diabète* contacted Life for a Child (LFAC) in July 2012, following the IDF African Diabetes Congress. The Association is very proactive in education and treatment, and has good relationships with the Government. An LFAC questionnaire was completed, determining the Association's needs and identifying 23 children and youth with diabetes – mainly in the nation's capital, Nouakchou. Following the signing of an agreement, insulin, funds for a refrigerator (for insulin storage), and meters and strips were sent in for local distribution – permitting home monitoring of blood glucose for many who have never been able to do this before. Numbers have since increased to 43 as awareness of the Programme has grown and children outside the capital have been enrolled. Further increases are expected as care spreads to other parts of the country and as the enhanced management improves survival rates.



Young girl receives donated insulin care of LFAC, Eli Lilly & Association Mauritanienne de lutte contre le Diabète

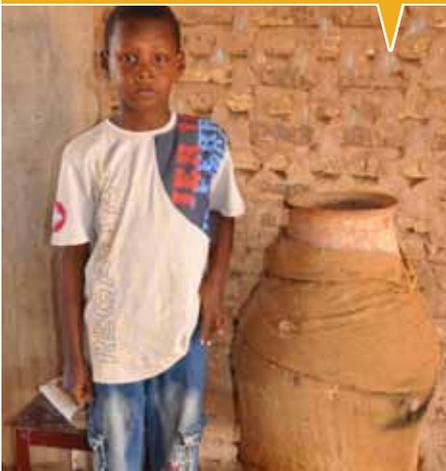
endocrinologist Dr Mohamed Abdullah, the Association has established a strong network in the country, and clinical care is at a level of quality beyond most African countries. In Gezira, a city to the south-east of Khartoum, the *Integrated Management of Diabetes in Children* (IMDC) clinic at the University of Gezira also provides similar care for many children with diabetes.

LFAC contributes by providing essential supplies such as insulin, blood glucose meters, and test strips, as well as point-of-care testing for HbA1c (a test done every three months which gives an indication of overall blood glucose control) and microalbuminuria (an annual test checking for kidney complications).

Dr Ogle conducted a site visit in November 2012, meeting with key local doctors and discussing needs and plans for the future, including clinical research.

SUDAN

In Sudan, 650 children and youth with diabetes are now accessing care thanks to LFAC collaboration with two key local organisations. Since 2011, LFAC has worked with the *Sudanese Childhood Diabetes Association* based in Khartoum, Sudan's capital city. Overseen by the internationally renowned paediatric



One of the children supported by the Programme in Khartoum, with the clay pots in which he stores his insulin as his family do not have access to a refrigerator

SRI LANKA



In late June LFAC Education Manager Angie Middlehurst, a very experienced paediatric nurse and diabetes educator, travelled to Sri Lanka at the invitation of the Diabetes Association of Sri Lanka (DASL), who have been working with LFAC since 2004. Angie spent the first afternoon meeting 100 parents and 80 children aged between 5 - 18 years supported by LFAC, and conducted several informal, interactive education sessions: ages and stages of diabetes, managing diabetes from a growth and developmental perspective, and management of school issues - all of which were translated by local doctors. "It brought it home to me that these children and teenagers with type 1 diabetes have the same behavioural issues in coping with a chronic disease as children all over the world" said Angie, "and their parents want the best for them as all parents do." The following two days were devoted to teaching local nurses practical aspects of diabetes management using a mix of presentation, discussion, and online education materials. Dr Mahen Wijesuriya of DASL commented: "Angie was marvelous with the kids, children and parents. We liked her very informal manner and especially the fact that she tries very hard to relate to the audience whoever they are. We have come across many educators in the past but we were most impressed with her style as we ourselves learnt so much from her."

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS: JANUARY – JULY 2013

- ▶ LFAC support commenced in Burkina Faso
- ▶ Azeri (Azerbaijan) education resource page added to the LFAC Childhood Diabetes Education website
- ▶ LFAC hosted two update meetings at 73rd Scientific Sessions of the American Diabetes Association and Dr Ogle received a major international award - 2013 Harold Rifkin Award for Distinguished International Service in the Cause of Diabetes – recognising his contribution, over many years, to the international diabetes community
- ▶ Donation of one million test strips and 1,333 blood glucose meters from LifeScan (Johnson & Johnson) was distributed to seven LFAC-supported countries between April and May
- ▶ Site visits and teaching by LFAC and other international experts conducted in Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda and Sri Lanka

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Programme Steering Committee: Prof Martin Silink (Chairman), Dr. Graham Ogle (General Manager), Nicola Stokes (Co-Chairman and CEO, Australian Diabetes Council (ADC)), Dr. Lilian Jackson (Principal Health Strategy Executive, ADC).

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