

# HOT TOPICS – NOVEMBER 2022

## WORLD DIABETES DAY (14 NOVEMBER 2022)



**DID YOU KNOW?** 1 in 10 adults are now living with diabetes. Figures from the 10<sup>th</sup> Edition of the International Diabetes Federation (IDF)

**Diabetes Atlas reveal that 537 million adults around the world are living with diabetes!!** [Source: [World Diabetes Day | Access to Diabetes Care: If Not Now, When?](#)]



### What is Diabetes?

*"Diabetes is a lifelong condition that causes a person's blood sugar level to become too high. There are 2 main types of diabetes:*

- *Type 1 diabetes – where the body's immune system attacks and destroys the cells that produce insulin*
- *Type 2 diabetes – where the body does not produce enough insulin, or the body's cells do not react to insulin*

*Type 2 diabetes is far more common than Type 1. In the UK, around 90% of all adults with diabetes have Type 2"* [Source: [Diabetes - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)]

Do you think that diabetes would be considered a disability under the Equality Act 2010?



Remember, the definition of a disability under the act is "a physical or mental

impairment that has a substantial long-term negative effect on a person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities". As each person is treated individually, ultimately only a court or tribunal can decide if a person is covered by the definition. However, "in many cases people with diabetes will be covered by this definition of disability ... because diabetes is a life-long condition, and it can seriously affect a person's ability to do normal day-to-day things" [Source: [Advocacy pack EmploymentV3-Jan2016\\_0.pdf \(diabetes.org.uk\)](#)]

### More about World Diabetes Day

"World Diabetes Day (WDD) was created in 1991 by IDF [International Diabetes Federation] and the World Health organisation in response to growing concerns about the escalating health threat posed by diabetes. World Diabetes Day became an official United Nations Day in 2006 with the passage of United Nations

Resolution 61/225. It is marked every year on **14 November**, the birthday of Sir Frederick Banting, who co-discovered insulin along with Charles Best in 1922" [Source: [About WDD | World Diabetes Day](#)]

The campaign is represented by a blue circle logo that was adopted in 2007 after the passage of the UN Resolution on diabetes. The blue circle is the global



world diabetes day  
14 November

symbol for diabetes awareness. It dignifies the unity of the global diabetes community in response to the diabetes epidemic" [Source: [About WDD | World Diabetes Day](#)]



There is a worldwide initiative to provide access to diabetes care. Please watch this short video (4min 34sec) to find out more <https://youtu.be/QUQUrjw0YU0>

You are extremely likely to encounter people that have diabetes in your role as a police officer. Think about these facts and figures:

- 537 million adults (1 in 10) were living with diabetes in 2021. This number is expected to rise to 643 million by 2030 and 783 million by 2045
- Almost 1 in 2 adults (44%) with diabetes remain undiagnosed (240 million). The majority have Type 2 diabetes
- More than 3 in 4 people with diabetes live in low and middle-income countries
- 541 million adults are at increased risk of developing Type 2 diabetes
- More than 1.2 million children and adolescents (0-19 years) live with Type 1 diabetes
- Diabetes caused 6.7 million deaths in 2021
- Diabetes was responsible for at least \$966 billion in health expenditure in 2021 – 9% of the global spend on healthcare
- 1 in 6 live births (21 million) are affected by high blood glucose (hyperglycaemia) in pregnancy

[Source: [Facts & figures | World Diabetes Day](#)]



Now that you have a better understanding of diabetes, what types of situations can you think of where you may deal with someone that has diabetes and what might you have to consider? When you discuss this with your PDC, think, for example, about when you stop and search someone with diabetes, someone that you arrest or someone who is detained at a police station.