

# Interruption of Pump Therapy

In the event of unexpected pump failure, you may need to temporarily discontinue pump therapy. This can be a stressful time so it is very important that you be prepared to return to multiple daily injections, and you have a good understanding of what you need to do to keep your blood glucose (BG) under control during this time. Other times such as during medical procedures or participation in contact sports may be times when you may wish to be off the pump. It might be helpful to refer to a copy of your pre-pump insulin regimen for a guide, but your most recent pump therapy basal rate and bolus amount totals will provide more accurate information.

Do you:

- Have long-acting insulin in your fridge?
- Have syringes or pen needles available to inject long-acting insulin?
- Know how much long-acting insulin to take if you need to go back to injections?  
(Check basal menu for 24 hour total basal amount.)

**Discuss your back up plan for basal insulin with your physician/healthcare team.**

Please complete the blanks below with your healthcare provider:

I will take  units of  insulin at  (time of day).

Here are some general guidelines. Remember, consult your healthcare provider for individualized instructions.

## Time off Your Pump – Action to Take

### UP TO 3 HOURS:

#### Action to take:

1. If BG is within target:
  - Calculate anticipated basal to be missed (For example, if your basal rate is 1.0 U/hr, and you plan to be disconnected for two hours, the missed basal is 2.0 U).
  - Give injection of rapid-acting insulin to replace.
  - Monitor BG.
2. If BG is elevated:
  - Calculate anticipated basal to be missed. (See example above)
  - Give injection of rapid-acting insulin to cover correction plus anticipated missed basal.
  - Monitor BG.
3. If BG is below target or anticipated high activity level:
  - Treat low blood glucose with carbohydrate if required.
  - Calculate anticipated basal to be missed. (See example above)
  - Give injection of rapid-acting insulin to replace basal. Consider reducing this amount.
  - Monitor BG.
4. Carbohydrate containing meals and/or snacks:
  - Take rapid-acting insulin injection or reconnect and deliver carb bolus.

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## Time off Your Pump (>3 hours) – Action to Take

### DAYTIME HOURS:

#### Action to take:

- Follow action steps listed above. Every 3-4 hours while disconnected.
- Monitor BG every 1½ hours while off your pump.

### OVERNIGHT:

#### Action to take:

##### 1. Option 1:

- Inject rapid-acting insulin every 3-4 hours to replace anticipated basal amount you will miss.
- If BG is elevated, add rapid-acting insulin for correction.
- If consuming carbohydrate for meals and/or snacks, take the carb dose by injection.
- Monitor BG.

##### 2. Option 2:

- Inject intermediate-acting insulin (e.g. NPH) based on anticipated basal amount to be missed.
- If BG is elevated, add rapid-acting insulin for correction.
- If consuming carbohydrate for meals and/or snacks, take the carb dose by injection.

##### 3. Option 3: (recommended if you plan to be off the pump for more than a few days)

- Take injection of long-acting insulin (e.g. Lantus®, Levemir®, Toujeo®, Basaglar®, Tresiba®) based on 24 hour missed basal amount. Check basal menu for 24 hour total basal amount. Go to Menu → Basal → A1 Weekday (choose active basal program) → Review. The total 24 hour dose is at the top of the screen.
- If BG is elevated, add rapid-acting insulin for correction.
- If consuming carbohydrate for meals and/or snacks, take the carb dose by injection.
- Monitor BG.

**You will need a plan to wean yourself off intermediate or long-acting insulin (options 2 & 3) before starting on your pump again.**

**Consult your healthcare provider for specific individualized instructions.**

