

Insulin at 100

A life-saving discovery but more remains to be done

Nearly 500 million people are currently living with diabetes worldwide. Without action, the figure could rise to 700 million within the next 25 years. This potentially debilitating chronic condition can lead to life-threatening complications when left untreated and an early death.

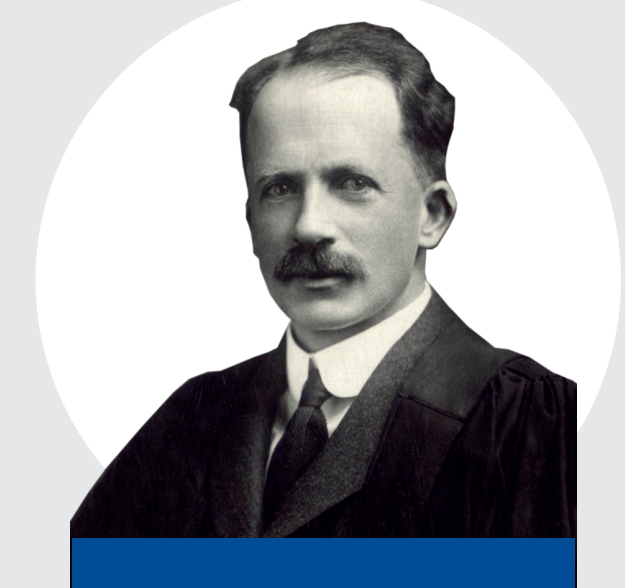


The journey to a medical miracle

- October 1920** Frederick G Banting has idea for insulin research
- November 1920** Banting meets John JR Macleod
- May 1921** Banting begins experiments, assisted by Charles H Best
- August 1921** Banting and Best first use extracted insulin to regulate the blood glucose of dogs with severe diabetes
- December 1921** James B Collip joins the research team to help purify the crude insulin extract
- January 1922** The first successful insulin injection is administered to Leonard Thompson on January 23
- October 1923** Banting and Macleod are awarded the Nobel prize for the discovery of insulin



Frederick G Banting



John JR Macleod



Charles H Best



James B Collip



Best and Banting



Leonard Thompson



A Nobel prize

Decades of innovation to provide care

- 1924** First specialised insulin syringe
- 1954** First disposable glass syringe
- 1955** First oral medications for type 2 diabetes become available
- 1965** First blood glucose test strip
- 1971** First blood glucose meter
- 1979** First commercial insulin pump
- 1982** Human insulin introduced
- 1985** First insulin pen
- 1996** Analogue insulin introduced
- 1999** First Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) system
- 2000** First islet cell transplantations conducted
- 2013** First artificial pancreas is developed



IDF is leading a three-year World Diabetes Day campaign to increase access to diabetes care, and highlight the need for more action to prevent diabetes and its complications.

Get involved at www.worlddiabetesday.org