

Selecting the Appropriate Pump

We encourage you to take the time to carefully select the pump that best suits your needs for improved diabetes management. The following are some considerations and questions to ask when speaking to the different pump manufacturers.

How much insulin are you currently using (both rapid and long acting)? Different pumps hold different amounts of insulin. When wearing the pump, you'll need to change the pump's infusion site and reservoir holding the insulin every 3 days. The pump you select must have a reservoir that is large enough to hold the amount of insulin you use in 3 days. (factor in extra insulin you may take for big meals or correcting highs)

How many meters/remotes are provided with the pump and what happens if the meter/remote is broken or lost? (replacement cost) Some pumps are operated by a hand held device, others through the pump itself, and some have the option of using either the pump or hand held device.

What is the smallest basal and bolus rate that the pump can deliver? What is the largest? If you take small doses of insulin, the ability to deliver insulin in very small increments can have a big impact on your blood sugars.

All pumps are designed and operate a little differently. How "user friendly" is the pump? There may be one pump that you find easier to use than another. The best way to find out is through some hands-on with the different pumps. Consider setting up a time when you can try out the pump and see how to perform the everyday things you will be doing (delivering a bolus, adjusting basal rates, changing the infusion set).

Does the warranty cover water damage for both water resistant and waterproof pumps? What are the guidelines for swimming or playing water sports with the pump? What happens if the pump is lost in the lake/river/ocean?

Does the pump have continuous glucose monitoring capability? Is this something you would be interested in now, or in a few years? If not available now, will the company offer this in the near future?

How long is the pump under warranty? What does the warranty cover? ADP renews after year 5. Are there programs in place that will cover you if you require a new pump after the manufacturer's warranty is over and you're not yet eligible for a new pump through ADP?

How will you pay for the portion of pump supplies not covered by ADP? ADP covers \$2400 per year. What are the costs to you above that amount? Do you have private insurance that will pay those costs?

What self-management software does the pump come with? Is the software compatible with your computer? How does data transfer from the pump occur? Are the reports easy to use?