DIABETES IN CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS
KNOW THE WARNING SIGNS

Excessive thirst
Bed wetting
Lack of energy

If anyone shows these signs, check for diabetes immediately.

Treatment is urgent.

No child should die of diabetes

IN THIS UPDATE:

Awareness campaign
270 children in 17 sites
Expert workshops

The IDF Life for a Child Programme would like to thank its major donors:
**DIABETIC KETOACIDOSIS (DKA) AWARENESS CAMPAIGN**

Diabetic ketoacidosis is a life-threatening situation where blood glucose levels are very high due to insulin deficiency. It occurs if the diagnosis of diabetes is delayed, or if insulin injections are missed for a period, or if insufficient insulin is given at times of acute illness. The body becomes acidic and dehydrated, and death can occur from shock or brain swelling. Many children and youth in developing countries die from ketoacidosis before underlying diabetes is diagnosed - the clinical findings they present with may be diagnosed as more common illnesses such as pneumonia, gastroenteritis, malaria or typhoid.

In response to this LFAC developed a global campaign, featuring a 6-icon poster, to alert health professionals to the signs and symptoms of diabetes in order to make a swift diagnosis and provide appropriate treatment to save lives. To date, 15 posters covering 18 languages are being widely distributed in 12 countries: Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Haiti, Ghana, Jamaica, Mali, Mauritania, Nepal, Nigeria, Rwanda, and Zimbabwe.

For further information on the campaign and access to the posters, visit: www.lifeforachild.org/education-resources/dka-awareness

**OTHER HIGHLIGHTS: AUGUST – DECEMBER 2013**

- LFAC support commenced in Bangalore and Belgaum in India, and the Philippine Society of Endocrinology & Metabolism joined the Programme
- Urdu and Sindh education resource pages added to the LFAC Childhood Diabetes Education website
- LFAC staff presented papers at the Annual Scientific Meetings for the Australian Diabetes Society and the Australasian Paediatric Endocrine Group (APEG), and ISPAD’s 39th Annual Conference in Gothenburg, Sweden
- At the IDF World Diabetes Congress in Melbourne, LFAC met with 27 LFAC-supported centres, hosted several key meetings for donors and centres, and held an Education Symposium launching the LFAC/ISPAD Pocketbook for the Management of Diabetes in Childhood and Adolescence in Under-Resourced Countries
- Site visits and teaching by LFAC and other international experts conducted in Mexico, Philippines, and also Ecuador - where Dr Henry Rodriguez, a Professor of Pediatrics, from Tampa, Florida, attended FDJE’s Campo Amigo held in Cumbaya and FUVIDA’s Salinas Camp.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

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

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**NIGERIA**

Nigeria sits on the Gulf of Guinea in West Africa, and is the most highly populated country on the continent. In 2006 LFAC began supporting 15 children and youth receiving care through the Lagos University Teaching Hospital (LUTH). Numbers have since swelled to 270 in 17 sites around the country, thanks to the work of Dr Abiola Oduwole at LUTH and the network of young Nigerian paediatric endocrinologists. Dr. Ogle, LFAC General Manager, conducted a site visit in March 2013, and also gave a couple of talks at the Paediatric Endocrinology Training College for West Africa.