

Dai Lloyd AM
Chair, Health, Social Care and Sport Committee
Tŷ Hywel
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

12 September 2016

Dear Dai

Petition P-04-682 Routine Screening for Type 1 Diabetes in Children and Young People

The Petitions Committee for the 4th Assembly considered the following petition for the first time on 8 March 2016:

We call on the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government to introduce routine screening for Type 1 Diabetes in children and young people.

In January of this year we tragically lost our beloved 13-year-old grandson, Peter Baldwin, to Type 1 diabetes that had been undetected until it was too late to save him. Peter was a well-loved and highly respected pupil at Whitchurch High School in Cardiff where he is greatly missed but for his family the hurt is unimaginable.

Our daughter Beth was recently presented with an award from The Pride of Britain for her fundraising efforts and for raising awareness of this terrible illness but with your help, and that of your friends and family we can really make a difference.

Please spare a couple of minutes to sign our petition calling on the Welsh Government to introduce a screening programme and to raise the profile of the need to check for Type 1 Diabetes in anyone presented to a health care professional with unexplained flu-like symptoms or general feeling of being unwell. The test involved is merely a finger prick or urine sample and takes less time than you have spent reading this paragraph; it also only costs pennies. It is our intention to make this test as routine within GP surgeries and clinics as temperature and blood pressure checks presently are.



Your signature on this petition really could help save lives and prevent further terrible loss within families.

Additional Information:

The ideal standard would be for screening of all youngsters in order to catch this stealthy condition in the early stages. Many parts of the world are seeing the benefit of this screening and are now introducing it, the most recent being North Carolina in the U.S. Below is a link to the North Carolina implementation.

<http://insulinnation.com/living/reegans-rule-passes-north-carolina/> *[Opens in a new browser window]*

The devolved Scottish Parliament is ahead of the rest of the U.K. and is already committed to debate the issue and appear very likely to implement screening. We want this for our children in Wales and are calling on the Welsh Government to introduce screening at the earliest opportunity.

PLEASE SIGN THE PETITION AND SHARE IT FAR AND WIDE

(now give yourself a pat on the back, you may have saved a child's life)

A petition campaigning for this change across the UK is currently collecting signatures on Change.org:

<https://www.change.org/p/craig-williams-mp-screen-children-for-type-1-diabetes>
[Opens in a new browser window]

The petition was submitted by Anthony Cook, having collected 2,570 signatures. An associated petition to the UK Government collected 3,670 signatures.

At the meeting on 8 March, Members agreed to ask the incoming Health Committee if they would consider including this issue on its forward work programme for the 5th Assembly. As the incoming Chair, I am now taking forward this request as agreed by the previous Committee.

I would be grateful if you could send your response by e-mail to the Clerking Team at SeneddPetitions@assembly.wales.

Yours sincerely



Mike Hedges AC/AM
Cadeirydd/ Chair

