bcdiabetes.ca
Patient Care + Research + Clinical Trials

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Looping in Hospital

At some stage of your life it is likely you will be hospitalized for elective surgical procedures. Hopefully this will never be an emergency. Regardless, contingency planning is important. Having the things below arranged will make for smoother sailing for you and the hospital staff. Chances are your hospital care team will be unfamiliar with Looping - print off this link for a general letter from BCDiabetes explaining Looping.

Documents/arrangements to have prepared

Your Nightscout URL eg https://vanbunbury.cgm.bcdiabetes.ca/
Omnipod PDM, updated with your current insulin settings, in case you need to revert to using PDM
Printed copy of a pump failure plan, filled out with your insulin doses (scroll to page 4 of the document; there is an online calculator to help you populate the 'my pump values' notebook)

Physical items to take to hospital

Spare phone charger / external battery pack
Spare Omnipod pods plus skin preparation supplies
Spare vials of rapid-acting insulin
Spare dexcom sensor
Rapid insulin pen and pentips
Long-acting insulin pen (for back-up if needing to come off pump altogether)
Glucometer with blood glucose- and ketone testing strips and finger poker
Hypo treatment kit (sugary drinks/food, glucagon)

Special situations

Never stop your basal insulin: occasionally hospital physicians will mistakenly instruct you to stop your insulin while fasting for a procedure - of course you should never stop your basal - for more on this see Type 1 diabetes rules
Fasting: no food/calories therefore no bolus, just allow the Loop system to run.
Colonoscopy or gastroscopy prep: this is similar to fasting, no bolusing unless these are manual corrections. For more info see this handout.

shortURL = https://bit.ly/LoopHospital