

# Yada Yada: June 2009

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## Greetings!

Well, we're half way through the year and the days are now getting longer, how are your new years resolution faring? Yeah I can't remember what mine were either. Moving right along...

After asking last month whether we'd ever see the cure, we might all be emigrating to New Zealand as cure trials on people (as opposed to mice) have been approved in our nearest neighbour. Gen-Y RCers get us twittering and a Gen Z pop star lobbies Obama for diabetes research. All that and more in our Midwinter edition of Yada.

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## Clinical Trial of Type 1 Cure in New Zealand

A clinical trial by an Australian company of transplantation of Diabecell, encapsulated pig islet cells has reportedly shown clinically significant results in Russia (two out of 7 type 1 diabetics were able to come off insulin). The great thing about this potential treatment is that the cells are encapsulated and shouldn't trigger an immune response.

The New Zealand government has just announced its approval for a Phase 1/11a clinical trial of diabecell. Eight "brittle" type 1 diabetics will take part in the trial which is expected to take two years.

Australian T1 diabetics will have to wait, however, because of a moratorium in place by the Australian Government on, xenotransplantation, the technology behind Diabecell.

Speaking to the Medical News, Professor John Dwyer, Emeritus Professor at the University of New South Wales said "This technique has enormous potential to reduce suffering and the enormous costs involved in treating diabetes and its many complications. The approval of this trial in New Zealand will hopefully lead to a reconsideration of the current moratorium on xenotransplantation in Australia.

Given the safety data now available I am convinced the Australian Government should lift its ban on Australian clinical researchers doing similar trials. We have many leaders in the field in Australia ready to contribute to the global effort to cure diabetes,"

[Click here to visit the Medical News article](#)

## Join Our List

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[Taking Reality Check onto Twitter-a Gen Y led Trial](#)

As part of the Type 1 Diabetes Network's ongoing mission to provide opportunities for those of us in the exclusive type 1 club to exchange ideas, experiences and knowledge, you can now also find us on <http://www.twitter.com/T1DN as @T1DN> where we will be tweeting about latest diabetes news, highlighting interesting forum posts and inviting discussion.

Thanks to Tristan Rayner for leading this initiative.

Feel free to follow us and to say G'Day on the Twitterverse!

## Research about Exercise & Diabetes

I don't know about all of you but I've always found the attitude to exercise and type 1 really frustrating. There are plenty of lectures about how good exercise is for you, but very little in terms of research based evidence about how to manage your bsIs whilst exercising.

Well, the wonderful people at the School of Sports Science, Exercise and Health at University of Western Australia are doing some great work in this area. Some of you may have attended their DiabetesFits sports camp in April.

They have published some of their research about exercise and bsIs [here](#). It's worth checking out, if you're in Perth you might even like to get involved in their research!

## RC Meets & Other Real Life Activities Around Oz

Brisbane RCers are getting together at the Coffee Club on 5 July.

South Australian RCers are meeting in Adelaide at East Tce Continental  
Sunday 16th August 3pm

Click [here](#) for more info about these meets and others being planned or jump in and organise something in your local area.

Western Australian Type 1 Group YWait, with links to DAWA & Fremantle hospital have organised some opportunities for young adults with type 1 to get together. For more information you can email [ywait@live.com.au](mailto:ywait@live.com.au) .

Visit the [hypoactive website](#) for news on their exercise opportunities & activities in and around Victoria.

Diabetes Week is being celebrated by at least one community health centre:

#### **Knox Community Health**

#### **Type 1 Diabetes Session**

**Wednesday 15 July 6.45-9pm**

Topics include, Diabetes & your oral health

Exercise for people with Type 1 Diabetes

Insulin pump therapy: pros and cons

Views & insights on the DAFNE Course

Includes light refreshments

**Free but Bookings are Essential**

Phone 9757 6200 OR email: [info@kchs.org.au](mailto:info@kchs.org.au)

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## QUICK SHOTS

**Hot topics on Reality Check online discussion this week:**

- [Fertility, Age & Diabetes](#)
- [Medic alert bracelets](#)
- [Problems with cost or access to intravitreal injections-let us know.](#)

**On Munted Pancreas, parents of type 1 kids are talking about**

- [PreSchool with Diabetes](#)
- [Kids wanting to stop pumping](#)

#### **In other news**

- Yet another amazing type 1 cyclist achieves amazing things. Diabetes.co.uk reports that over the course of 30 days, Paul Farrelly cycled across Europe, across 11 different countries over 2,000 miles as part of the Bayer European Cycle challenge. Read more [here](#).

## Pop Star Advocate

Youngest member of the US pop boy band, the Jonas Brothers,  16yo Nick Jonas has gone straight to the top to lobby Barak Obama for diabetes research. Nick disclosed that he has Type 1 diabetes while performing at a Diabetes Research Institute fundraiser in 2007. It wasn't the first time Nick had visited the White House, he and his brothers had been at inauguration celebrations with Obama's daughters.

Nick is also scheduled to testify before a Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee hearing on federal funding for diabetes research. Other witnesses include boxer Sugar Ray Leonard and actress Mary Tyler Moore.

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[jonasbrothers.com](http://jonasbrothers.com)

Well that's all for this winter solstice edition of Yada. Stay well and away from all the winter bugs and germs.

All the best 'til next month

***Kate & Mel***

The Type 1 Diabetes Network Inc.

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