Dear Sir/Madam,

Insert the address of your local health decision maker here.

The below links will help you locate your local health decision maker)

England - [www.nhs.uk/Service-Search/Clinical%20Commissioning%20Group/LocationSearch/1](http://www.nhs.uk/Service-Search/Clinical%20Commissioning%20Group/LocationSearch/1)

Scotland - [www.nhsinform.co.uk/nhs-in-your-area/](http://www.nhsinform.co.uk/nhs-in-your-area/)

Northern Ireland - [online.hscni.net/hospitals/health-and-social-care-trusts/](http://online.hscni.net/hospitals/health-and-social-care-trusts/)

Wales - [www.wales.nhs.uk/ourservices/directory](http://www.wales.nhs.uk/ourservices/directory)

**Re: Access to Diabetes Education courses in our area**

As someone living with diabetes, I know how important it is to have access to quality diabetes education courses. I am therefore writing to enquire about the availability of courses in our local area.

Diabetes education courses are an integral part of diabetes care and are recommended by NICE[[1]](#footnote-1). Referral of people newly diagnosed with diabetes onto a diabetes education course is also included in the Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF).

Evidence shows that diabetes education courses support people to manage their condition effectively and avoid serious complications, including blindness and amputation. There is also good evidence that courses increase people’s confidence and quality of life.

Ensuring fair access to diabetes education courses must be a priority. I would like to know what measures are being taken in our area to make sure more people like me can access quality diabetes education courses.

Specifically, please tell me what structured education courses are available in my area and which groups these are aimed at (e.g. people with Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes). I’d also like to know how you can enrol on a course. If there are no current courses available, please can you let me know why this is the case.

Insert your local experience here if you want to. This can help to make the case and make if particularly relevant to local decision makers. Consider adding your own reasons for wanting to access the course – what do you feel it will help with?

With strong evidence of the effectiveness of education and a NICE recommendation that courses should be made available, I feel it is essential people like me have access to quality diabetes education courses.

I look forward to hearing from your shortly.

Yours faithfully,

(Insert your name and address)

1. NICE NG17: Type 1 diabetes in adults: diagnosis and management; NICE CG87: Type 2 diabetes: The management of type 2 diabetes [↑](#footnote-ref-1)