

Type 1 Diabetes TrialNet is an international consortium of clinicians and scientists with a strong contribution from the UK network of 30 affiliate sites. TrialNet's mission is to prevent type 1 diabetes and stop disease progression by preserving insulin production before and after diagnosis. The research portfolio covers the natural history of the type 1 diabetes disease process, including mechanistic studies, as well as intervention studies before and after clinical diagnosis. Having recruited more than 200,000 relatives over 14 years and followed-up those at highest risk, TrialNet has gained many important insights into the immunological and metabolic course of the pre-symptomatic phases of type 1 diabetes. Key transitions on the pathway have provided the basis for ongoing studies to elucidate the determining factors at different stages. Randomised controlled trials at clinical onset have identified a number of disease-modifying agents that are now being tested in prevention trials. However, perhaps the most valuable lesson has been the enthusiasm and support that individuals with type 1 diabetes and their families have shown for collaborating in this type of research.