

**Macleod Diabetes & Endocrine Centre
Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital**

Insulin needles

North, East & West Devon CCG has approved the following brands of insulin needles:

Omnican Fine[®] needles

- 4mm, 31G
- 6mm, 31G

Microdot Droplet[®] needles

- 4mm, 32G
- 6mm, 31G

GlucoRx Fine Point[®]

- 4mm, 31G
- 5mm, 31G
- 6mm, 31G

Notes

- Omnican Fine[®], Microdot Droplet[®] and GlucoRx FinePoint[®] needles are all compatible with all UK pen devices.
- 4,5 and 6mm pen needles are suitable for all adults, regardless of BMI. Skin thickness rarely exceeds 2.5mm, even in overweight patients. Shorter needles are less uncomfortable, and provide equivalent blood glucose control.
- 4,5 and 6mm needles may not require a lifted skinfold, particularly if using 4mm needles. However, a lifted skinfold is still prudent for slim patients.
- 4,5 and 6mm needles should be inserted at 90° to the skin surface in adults.
- 8mm and 12mm needles are not generally recommended because there is a tendency to inject into muscle rather than subcutaneous tissue, which results in too rapid absorption of insulin and a risk of hypoglycaemia. Individuals using these needles should use a lifted skinfold.