

Research Sheet

Diabetes and the Insulin Oligopoly

How well do you understand the potential impact of diabetes and the insulin oligopoly? Review the WHO sites, “The Insulin Oligopoly and the Diabetes Epidemic in Latin America,” and complete each section of this research worksheet to build on what you already know.

FILL IN THE BLANK:

1. _____ out of _____ people living with diabetes in the world are in low- and middle-income countries.
2. Diabetes causes _____, _____, heart attacks, stroke and lower limb amputation.
3. Insulin was first produced in the year _____.
4. Insulin is used to treat _____.
5. The three main pharmaceutical companies that produce insulin are _____, _____, _____.
6. In 2022, more than _____% of people living with diabetes did not take medication for their diabetes.
7. Name three things that can delay the progression of diabetes: _____, _____, _____.
8. The majority of Type 1 diabetics live in _____ income countries.
9. How many people died in 2021 of diabetes complications?
10. What is an infographic and why is it used?

TRUE/FALSE (T/F)

Indicate whether the correct response is true or false. If it is false, correct the statement.

11. _____ Type 2 diabetes is also known as juvenile diabetes.
12. _____ There are roughly 600 million people living with diabetes around the world.
13. _____ Limited access to diagnosis, treatment and ongoing support positively affects the health outcomes and well-being of people living with diabetes.

14. _____ Diabetes is a chronic illness that develops when people eat too much sugar.
15. _____ The four main noncommunicable diseases with high mortality rates are cardiovascular diseases, cancer, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes.

SHORT ANSWER (Answer on a separate sheet of paper and attach to this document)

16. What common challenges do middle and low income countries share? List a minimum of three challenges and explain how these challenges negatively impact healthcare.
17. What are the barriers people face in middle/low income countries when it comes to getting their medications at a cost that is affordable and from a place that is accessible?
18. When talking about inequities such as unequal access and/or affordability of medicines, what is justice? What role does journalism play in bringing justice?
19. In what ways are the injustices Henrietta Lacks faced like those experienced in low and middle income countries that have limited access to insulin? How are they different? Explain your answer using evidence from the book and the sites explored in this lesson.
20. How does the limited competition among key insulin manufacturers influence drug pricing and global access to affordable diabetes medications and what practices could most effectively change this imbalance?