

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?



Jillian Rippolone, Patient Advocate
Caravan to Canada



Caravan to Canada

Jillian Rippolone, Diabetes Patient Advocate

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WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

- Diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes in 1997
 - 8 years old
 - Dx early
 - Symptoms: extreme thirst, lethargic, no energy, bed wetting
- Type 1 sibling
 - Dx one year prior
 - Originally misdiagnosed (stomach virus)
 - DKA
 - Minutes away from death

...at least we had each other!

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

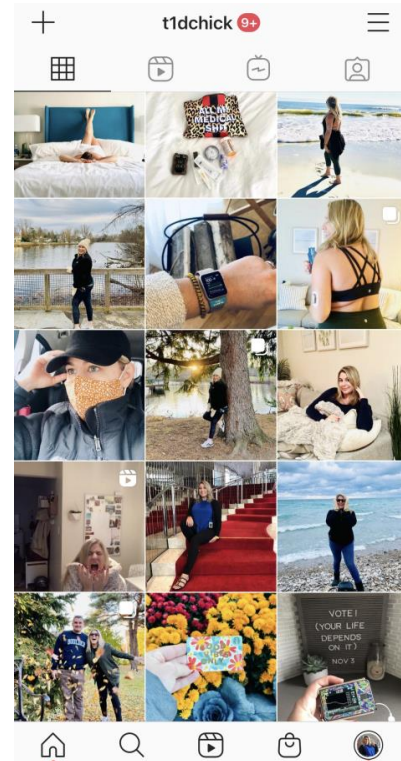
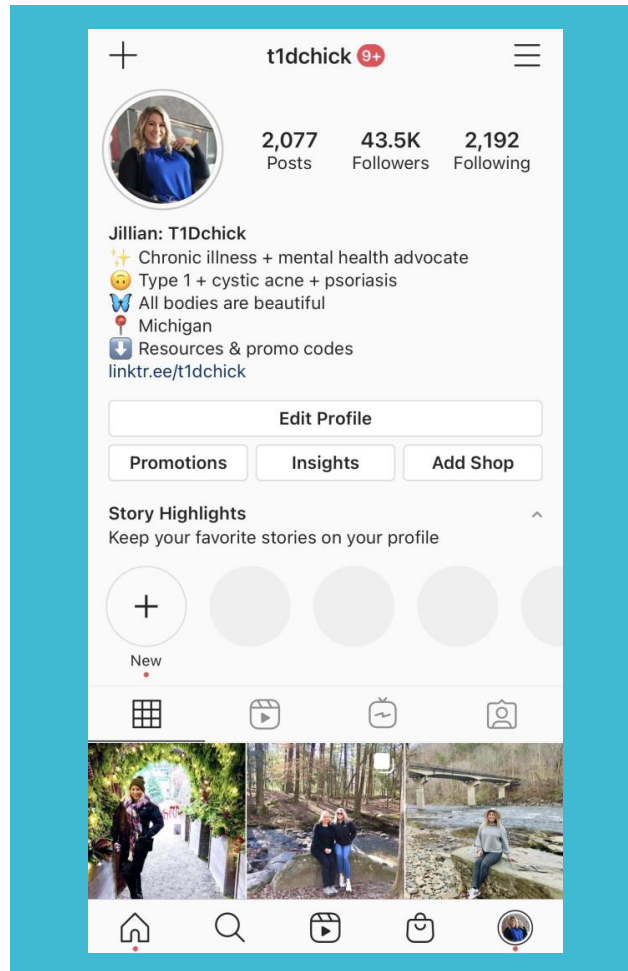
Diabetes Advocacy & How it all began

- Diabetes BURNOUT (yes, this is REAL!)
- Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA)
- Lack of diabetes education
- Lack of diabetes resources
- The birth of Social Media

Diabetes Burnout



What's your story?



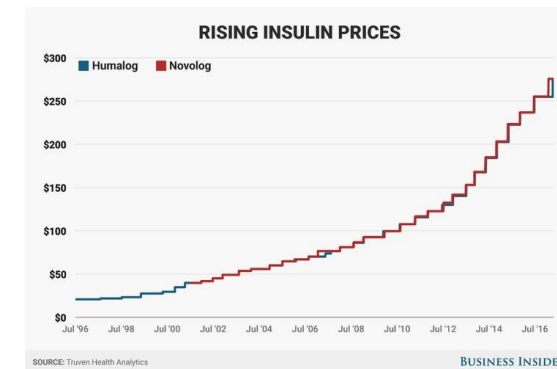
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#insulin4all
#insulin4all
#insulin4all



“Diabetes is NOT a one size fits all”

- Social Media
 - Diabetes Online Community (DOC)
 - Diabetes educational resources
 - Diabetes meetups and diabuddy bonds forming, community, connections
 - OPTIONS
 - Technology (pumps, cgms, meters, insulin)
 - Diabetes management care
- Organizations
 - More than just JDRF, ADA, & BT1
 - T1international, #insulin4all hashtag.
 - More than just a “trend”
 - Advocates for affordable insulin
 - My own personal struggle affording insulin
- Diabetes “Pay It Forward” (PIF) Groups
 - People turning to the “diabetes black market”
 - Can’t afford diabetes supplies and insulin
 - Illegal to buy/sell prescriptions (shutdown many groups)
 - Insulin & supplies rationed



We became our own diabetes advocates
Patient Leaders in our Diabetes Online Community

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There is NO cure for Type 1 Diabetes

Without insulin, a person living with Type 1 Diabetes cannot survive

This is a life or death issue

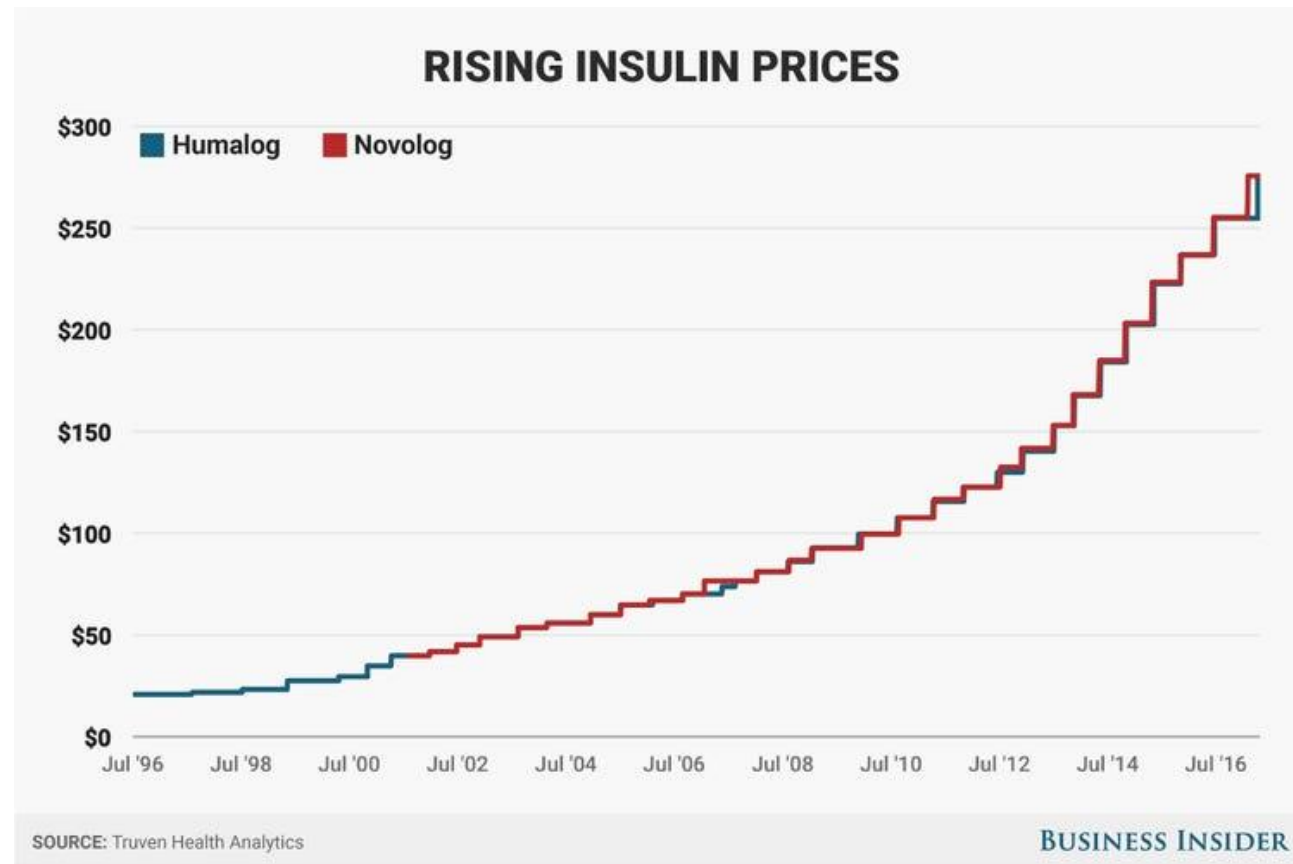
Dr. Banting discovered insulin in 1920's, sold patent for \$1

Insulin Costs around \$2-6 to produce

2020: Insulin can cost up to \$400 retail (mine costs \$333 per vial)

Rx Savings Cards, not the answer

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?



“If you have private or commercial insurance, such as insurance you receive through an employer or purchase yourself, you may be eligible to get savings...”

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

“...but what about insulin savings cards?”

“...what about patient assistance programs?”

“...haven't you heard about Walmart insulin, it's \$25, my diabetic dog uses it!?!?”

“...try diet and exercise, it cured my diabetes!!!”

While insulin savings cards and patient assistant programs can help some...

- IT DOES NOT INCLUDE ALL PEOPLE
- READ THE FINE PRINT

...this is not a solution to the insulin crisis in the USA

Walmart





What's **WHAT'S YOUR STORY?** your story?



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What's your story?



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What's your story?



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Q & A

What's your story? **WHAT'S YOUR STORY?**

