

Why carry out this study?

- Case reports and anecdotal evidence suggest that Diabetes Alert Dogs (DADs) are effective in helping patients with type 1 diabetes (T1D) prevent serious consequences of hypoglycemia (Hypo) by providing early alert. However, there has not been rigorous scientific study of DADs.
- We conducted this study to test the sensitivity and specificity of DADs to alert to Hypo samples from patients with T1D.

What was learned from the study?

- DADs at the end of training exhibited high levels of sensitivity and specificity in alerting to Hypo samples.
- Dogs can be trained to alert to Hypo samples from patients with T1D. Further study is needed to learn about reinforcement of training and outcomes in the home environment.

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