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Researchers transform skin cells into insulin making cells

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This study is a step towards discovering how stand-in cells can secrete insulin in the body.



Norwegian researches are one step closer to cure diabetes by making insulin-producing cells from skin cells.

Today, there is an ongoing race between scientists trying to restore insulin secretion within the human body in diabetes patients, by artificially created insulin-producing cells.

Researchers at the University of Bergen have transformed skin puncture cells from diabetes patients into insulin producing cells, using stem cell techniques. The researchers' aim is to transplant these cells under the skin of people with diabetes. This study is a step towards discovering how stand-in cells can secrete insulin in the body.

In the long run, the researchers´ goal is to replace insulin shots and blood sugar measurements with insulin-secreting cells capable of automatically secreting insulin in response to the blood sugar level. This can become possible by implanting a capsule with tailor made cells in each diabetes patient.