No insulin manufactured by Lilly is patent protected.

- The University of Toronto paid the discoverers of insulin $1 for the original patent in 1923. Lilly then paid the university a 5 percent royalty for every vial of animal-source insulin sold until 1967.

- Like other medical innovations, Lilly’s insulins have been patented – but none are today. In fact, Humalog U100, our most commonly used insulin, lost patent protection in 2014.

DID YOU KNOW?

IS TODAY’S INSULIN THE SAME AS 100 YEARS AGO?

No, while Lilly began large-scale production of animal-source insulin in 1923, many advancements have been made since then to bring significant improvements to the way diabetes is treated.

- **1982: The first biosynthetic human insulin** – similar to the natural insulin made by the body – was a significant advance in the treatment of diabetes and ended concerns about whether there would be enough animal insulin to treat the growing epidemic.

- **1996: The first rapid-acting insulin analog** brought more convenience, post-meal blood glucose control, and lower risk of hypoglycemia for people living with diabetes.

- **Today: Lilly offers 21 different insulin treatment options** for the millions of people living with diabetes. However, only about half the people living with diabetes and using insulin are able to fully control their condition. That’s why we continue to push the boundaries of science to bring better treatments to people with diabetes. In recent years, Lilly has invested over $4 billion on diabetes research and development.
Manufacturing insulin requires deep technical expertise and a significant, ongoing financial commitment.

- At Lilly, approximately **5,000 highly skilled personnel**, such as engineers and other scientists, oversee our insulin manufacturing process around the world, 365 days a year.
- Our manufacturing facilities in Indianapolis alone are approximately **1 million square feet** - equivalent to 18 football fields.
- It takes **several months, start to finish, to create the insulin** that people use today.
- Since 2012, Lilly has **invested more than $1.2 billion** to expand our insulin manufacturing facilities and ensure they are state-of-the-art.

Pricing

Why does Lilly insulin cost so much?

Patients’ specific out-of-pocket costs vary significantly depending on numerous factors, most notably the type and terms of their insurance coverage. Changes in the U.S. health care system have led to greater consumer cost-sharing and a growing number of patients exposed to a medicine’s full retail price. This has left many Americans struggling to pay for their medicine.

Programs

What help does Lilly provide?

- The Lilly Diabetes Solution Center opened on August 1, 2018. Our solutions are helping more than **10,000 people each month pay significantly less** for their Lilly insulin. Currently, approximately 95% of people using our rapid-acting insulin pay less than $100 a month.
- In the past five years, Lilly has **donated more than 5.4 million insulin vials and pens** to charitable organizations for people in need across the U.S.