

# How a pump works

An insulin pump helps diabetics regulate their blood sugar by providing a constant source of insulin. Introduced to the market in the 1980s, the pumps provided an alternative to multiple daily injections of insulin.

**A** **The pump** – about the size of a deck of cards - weighs only a few ounces and can be worn on a belt or kept in a pouch under clothing.

The pump connects to flexible **B** **plastic tubing** that delivers insulin to the body.

Users set the pump to give a steady trickle of insulin throughout the day. It can be programmed to release larger doses at meals or at times when blood sugar is too high.

All major models have an **Auto-Off** feature. When activated, the Auto-Off stops the delivery of insulin if the user doesn't press a button after a set amount of time. This is particularly important if the user becomes unconscious and is unable to stop the pump manually.

