**Clinical Characteristics of Western Australian Children Diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes before 10 Years of Age**

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Early onset type 2 diabetes appears to have a more severe phenotype compared with adult onset type 2 diabetes, and has a high prevalence of complications already present at the time of diagnosis despite the patients’ young age and short duration of the disease

This study aimed to describe the characteristics of Western Australian children aged less than 10 years diagnosed with type 2 diabetes between June 2000 and June 2017. Data was extracted from the population‐based WA Children's Diabetes Database and via manual review of hospital clinical files.

The common clinical features of early onset type 2 diabetes in young children in WA is described in the study. These features include history of parental type 2 diabetes, Aboriginal heritage, obesity, and female sex, and provides strong evidence for the need to screen children with these risk factors for type 2 diabetes, irrespective of their age.

The high prevalence of diabetes complications present strongly supports the need for complications screening at the time of diagnosis.