# The Artificial Pancreas (AP) improves glycemic control during extended exercise at Ski Camp in adolescents with Type 1 Diabetes (T1D)



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## **Background**

- Intense exercise often leads to abnormal glucose control in patients with T1D.
- Adjusting management for exercise remains one of the major burdens of T1D therapy.
- AP systems can improve glycemic control during and after exercise, but exercise studies have been limited.
- Skiing camps present a unique mix of prolonged physical activities of varied intensities, with metabolic effects compounded by cold, altitude, and stress/fear/excitement.



## **Methods**

- In a randomized controlled clinical trial, 32 adolescents with T1D (ages 10-16; 17 males) participated in a 5-day ski camp (~5h skiing/day), with N=16 fitted with the UVA AP system (vs. sensor augmented pump), at two sites: Wintergreen VA and Breckenridge CO.
- Control and treatment groups were matched by age and HbA1c; ski/snowboard proficiency was balanced overall but with a strong site effect.
- All subjects were physician monitored 24h/day using the UVA Diabetes Web Monitoring (DWM) system, allowing for strict enforcement of safety protocols on and off the slopes.

#### **Results**

- Percent time between 70-180mg/dL was significantly better in the AP group than in the SAP group (71% vs 65%; p=0.005) overall with maximum effect in the second half of the night.
- Percent time < 70 mg/dL was significantly reduced overall when adjusted for skiing skill level (3.2% vs 1.8%; p=0.002).
- Post-study qualitative feedback was highly positive regarding the AP system and study experience.



#### **Conclusions**

During the first winter-sport AP camp, we report significantly improved glycemic control without any device-related adverse events and with overwhelmingly positive patient feedback.

**Figure 2**. Glycemic control as represented by percent time in desirable zone (70mg/dl-180mg/dl) during different time of day for both SAP (grey) and CLC (white)



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