
INSULINK

DOCUMENTATION

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Idea

When Type 1 Diabetes[1] is diagnosed, a patient starts a new life with different eyes. From now on, the conception of food is completely different from the normal one, and the patient has to assimilate the big change and learn how to handle the disease. One of the most difficult but at the same time important things that the patient must learn, is the ***carbohydrates count*** and subsequently the correct insulin dose for a bolus [2]. InsuLink has been designed with the main purpose of giving an hand to Type 1 Diabetes patient with the calculation of the correct ***insulin doses*** and storing Glycemia values.

1.1 Main Goal

InsuLink main goal is to give a first support to the patient but only if combined with the doctor supervision. It is important to underline that this application is only defined by an algorithm, and in this kind of diseases ***each patient needs ad hoc treatments.***

```
\usepackage
```

or

```
\usepackage{package}
```

Functionalities

Insulink offers some useful tools to keep track of the daily routine of a patient.

2.1 Food Scan

It is possible to scan a given Food BarCode and be redirected to the FoodDetails page with all necessary data.

2.2 Glycemia

Keep track of your daily Glycemia with intuitive charts and easily with the glycemia insertion tool.

2.3 Insulin Calculator

An algorithm (inside Insulin Calculator class) will retrieve last Glycemia, total amount of carbohydrates, sport activity and all essential data to calculate the optimal insulin dose for the given meal. A more detailed explanation can be found in the Insulin Calculator Section.

2.4 Calendar

The user can see a well detailed sight of all previous data, just choosing a date from the InsuLink calendar, that will retrieve all the informations about that day from the database.

Screens and Navigation

The following provides a screenshot of the pages with a brief description of their use.

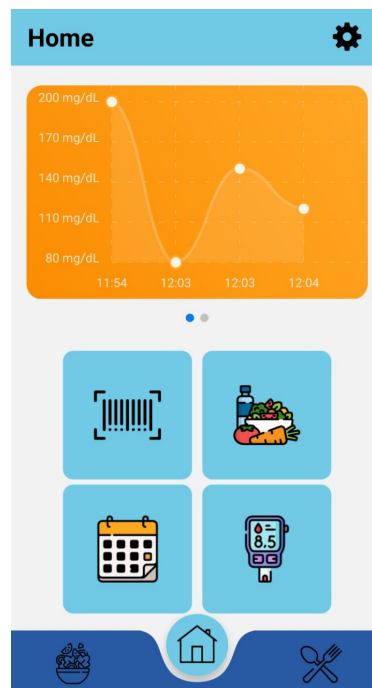
3.1 Home

Home menu offers shortcuts to the main functionalities and a quick sight of the today glycemia with its intuitive charts.



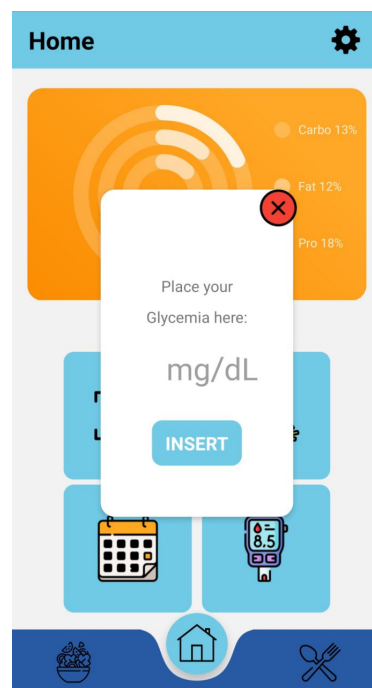
3.2 Search

Search food or recipe for nutritional details or to add it in meal diary. User can easily modify the unit measure and quantity of food.



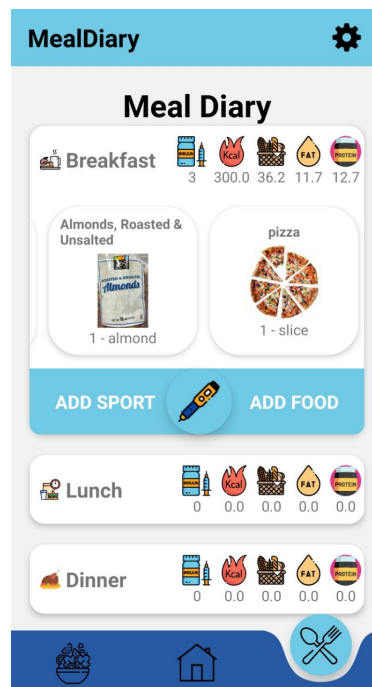
3.3 Glycemia PopUp

Add glycemia quickly just using the menu shortcut or during the insulin calculation procedure. The value will automatically stored in Firebase.



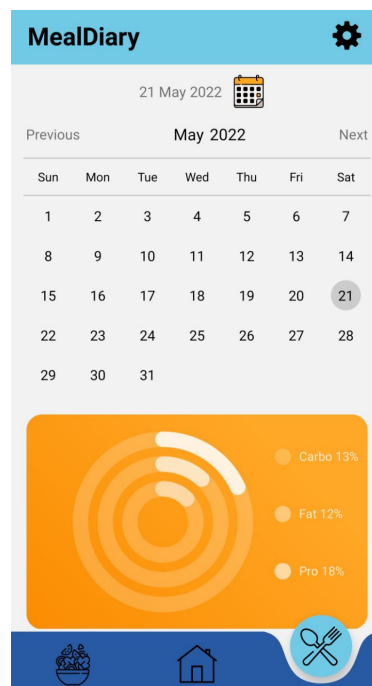
3.4 Meal Diary

Meal Diary can be used for both calculating daily total macro nutrients and insulin dose of each meal.



3.5 Calendar

In calendar it will be possible to retrieve historical data by clicking on a date.

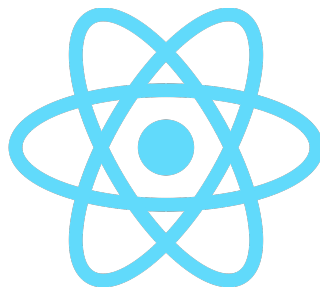


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SECTION

Architecture

The technology used to make this app is react native [3].



4.1 Folder Structure

`\assets`

Contains all images and component with a proper mapping.

`\constants`

All constants concerning the design and states of the app.

`\customComponents`

All buttons, charts and pickers specifically designed for the pages.

`\pages`

Folder with all pages of the app, using the custom components

\stateManager

Redux States for data managing with actions and reducers: macroTracker for meals and userReducer for the patient.

\utils

Logic of API, authentication, Firebase and Insulin Calculator

API and Services

InsuLink uses different APIs to get all informations about food and storing user data.

5.1 Nutritionix

Nutritionix [4] is the API used to have a well detailed food database, with all important informations to have a completely working application.



Nutritionix support Natural Language, BarCodes and has a huge dataset with food and recipes. Here there're some functionalities offered by the standard plan:



Natural Language

Turn spoken text into precise nutrition analysis with our state-of-the-art natural language functionality.

[Try a live demo!](#)



Autocomplete Search

Your users will love our lightning fast autocomplete search. Try a demo below:

Common Foods

Our registered dietitian team started with the USDA database and supercharged it! In addition to USDA foods, our team has curated thousands of common international foods and recipes.

[Learn More](#)



Branded Foods

We have the largest branded food database in existence with over 742K grocery foods with barcodes and 185K restaurant foods.

[About our Database](#)



Dietitian Verified

We employ a full-time team of registered dietitians to help us verify our data and API procedures to ensure we can provide the strongest possible nutrition solution for your app.



Restaurant Geolocation

Send our API a lat/long coordinate, and we will return a list of nearby restaurant locations which have nutrition data available. We have a growing database of 209,882 restaurant locations.

[Try a live demo!](#)

The API requests and responses are documented in the `/utils/apiQuery.js` class

5.2 Firebase

Firebase [6] is a Google serverless platform for application development. It is a powerful tool to implement an app database and Google authentication, having many powerful tools to manage it.



All its requests and responses are well documented in the ***src/utils/firebaseQuery.js*** and ***src/utils/auth.js*** classes.



Redux States

Inserting grap

Insulin Calculator

To understand the algorithm behind the Insulin Calculator, here're some basics:

- Approximately 40-50 percent of the total daily insulin dose is to replace insulin overnight, when you are fasting and between meals.
- The other 50-60 percent of the total daily insulin dose is for carbohydrate coverage (food) and high blood sugar correction
- The bolus dose for food coverage is prescribed as an insulin to carbohydrate ratio. The insulin to carbohydrate ratio represents how many grams of carbohydrate are covered or disposed of by 1 unit of insulin.
- The bolus dose for high blood sugar correction is defined as how much one unit of rapid-acting insulin will drop the blood sugar.
- Sport Activity deeply influences the response to insuline and determine a less request of insulin in the patient.

Not taking count of sport activity may lead the patient to a low bloodsugar value. Insulink checks if the user has done sport and suggests a new dose value with one unit less. This is not true for all patients, some may need even less amount of insulin.

The main equation for the correct meal dose calculation is:

$$\text{CHO Insulin Dose} = \Sigma \text{ grams of CHO in the meal} / \text{grams of CHO disposed by 1 unit of insulin}$$

$$\text{CHO Total Dose} = \text{CHO Insulin Dose} + \text{High Blood Sugar Correction Dose}$$

$$\text{High blood sugar correction dose} = \Delta \text{ actual blood- target blood sugar} \div \text{correction factor}$$

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SECTION

Testing

To perform automated and personalized testing it was used Jest [5]. It is a JavaScript Testing Framework that supports React Native. Tests were performed on:

`__tests__`

Where to overcome some technological barriers, mock objects were used instead of not supported libraries.

8.1 Folders

`\api-test`

Local storage and API calls from Firebase and Nutritionix.

`\redux-test`

Redux and user actions such as: adding food to meal or removing it.

`\renders-test`

Checks correct Pages rendering. Makes snapshots of all pages and compares them with expected result.

`\utils`

Checks User input and Insulin Calculator

At the end were performed more than 50 successful tests on the app.

Future Implementations

Insulink has been structured with the possibility of implementing new technologies inside it.

9.1 API

The API utils section of the code is easily changeable from one provider to another. Using a premium API would affect the performance but also the usability of the app.

9.2 Machine Learning and AI

Calculating the correct insulin dose is a really difficult problem. The factor that influences the output is not only the amount of carbohydrates eaten, but many other features: fats, sport activity, emotional condition and sometimes even the weather.

Moreover each patient needs specific treatments, and has a different resistance to insulin. Using Machine Learning in this field could be a smart way to correctly predict the optimal insulin dose.

9.3 NFC Glucose Meter

Some Glucose Meters use new technologies to simplify diabetic patients life. One famous example is FreeStyle Libre [7]. Using the NFC technology to retrieve glycemia helps not only in terms of time but also in visualization and store of data.

Once implemented, the user has just to bring the phone closer to the sensor and the app will check the glucose (and store it).



References

- [1] Diabetes Definition
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Type_1_diabetes
- [2] Bolus Definition
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bolus_\(medicine\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bolus_(medicine))
- [3] React Native
<https://reactnative.dev>
- [4] Nutritionix
<https://www.nutritionix.com>
- [5] Jest
<https://jestjs.io>
- [6] Firebase
<https://firebase.google.com>
- [7] FreeStyle Libre
<https://www.freestyle.abbott/us-en/home.html>
- [8] Source for Insulin Calculator
<https://dtc.ucsf.edu/types-of-diabetes/type1/treatment-of-type-1-diabetes/>

medications-and-therapies/type-1-insulin-therapy/
calculating-insulin-dose/