Artificial pancreas awaits FDA

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WEST CHESTER — Animas Corp. is getting ready to begin human clinical testing on its first-generation artificial pancreas technology.

All it needs is the Food and Drug Administration OK to proceed.

“We have gone to the FDA and presented a plan to them,” said Dr. Henry Anhalt, chief medical officer of Animas and director of its artificial pancreas program: Project Manya. “We expect to hear back from them in short order and begin our clinical trials.”

One year ago, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) formed a

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Bill is due for better

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Pennsylvania has borrowed more than $3 billion from the federal government since its Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund has run dry. The state is now among 10 states owing the most to the unemploymen
ANIMALS preparing to test first-generation technology for diabetics.

An animal was recruited for the project because of its expertise as a provider of high-tech insulin pumps. The Chester County company, founded in 1986 by Katherine D. Croft, is a leader in the development of insulin pumps, which are used to deliver insulin to people with diabetes. The company, which has more than 100 employees, is headquartered in Philadelphia.

The device was tested in mice and rats in the company's research lab, and then in three dogs at two hospitals. The dogs were monitored for two weeks, and the pumps were programmed to deliver insulin at specific times.

The company plans to continue testing the device in more animals, and to eventually test it in people. The device is expected to be available in the United States by 2018.