



The **COMPENDIUM** *of*
**DIABETES BEST
PRACTICES**



American Association of
HEALTH PLANS



**American
Diabetes
Association®**

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The compendium was originally prepared by the Texas Medical Foundation (TMF) for *Taking on Diabetes: Care in the New Millennium*, a conference presented by the American Association of Health Plans (AAHP), the American Diabetes Association (ADA), and the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), on August 4-5, 1999, in Washington, DC.

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Introduction

The goal of the Compendium of Diabetes Best Practices is to assist health care providers to improve screening, monitoring, and treatment of patients with diabetes so that they have improved outcomes. The Compendium should be a useful aid to clinicians, administrators, quality improvement staff, patient educators, and others involved in the care of diabetics. Studies and projects included in the compendium describe prevention and treatment programs in outpatient, inpatient, worksite and community settings with funding coming from fee-for-service insurance, capitated managed care organizations, and government sources.

Another purpose of the Compendium is to provide information on successful diabetes-related interventions which were discussed during breakout sessions at the national diabetes conference “Taking on Diabetes: Care in the New Millennium,” held August 4-5, 1999 in Washington, DC. This conference was co-sponsored by the American Association of Health Plans, the American Diabetes Association, and the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA).

HCFA contracted with the Texas Medical Foundation (TMF), a Medicare peer review organization, to publish the original Compendium. The CDC/NDEP contracted with AAHP to provide the summaries of worksite and community partnership articles.

The Compendium has five sections. Sections One through Three contain a table of contents, one or more summary tables, and abstracts.

Section One contains abstracts of published clinical effectiveness studies, i.e., the investigators tested interventions designed to improve the quality of diabetes care. These studies were identified by a literature search performed by the Center for Health Studies at the Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound. TMF and HCFA assembled an expert review panel to review these studies and determine those which should be included in the Compendium. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) had developed a tool for reviewing intervention studies, and this CDC tool was modified for the review of diabetes studies. Inclusion criteria addressed the methodology of each study, e.g., appropriateness of the study’s design, validity of the measures, adequacy of the sample size, and meaningful results. Reviewers were asked not to consider the studies’ generalizability, feasibility, nor cost in their recommendations. These aspects of the studies should be evaluated by readers if they wish to apply the studies’ interventions to their own health care setting.

Section Two contains abstracts describing federally funded diabetes quality improvement projects. The projects were conducted by the Indian Health Service, Medicare peer review organizations, and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Section Three contains abstracts of diabetes quality improvement projects conducted in work sites or those that grew out of community collaborations. These projects were identified and described by the American Association of Health Plans and evaluated with assistance from the American Diabetes Association.

Section Four is a bibliography containing clinical efficacy studies which form the evidence base for excellent diabetes care. This bibliography is based on literature reviews performed by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Center for Health Studies at the Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound. The diabetes-related topics addressed by these studies are:

- Glycemic control;
- Foot care;
- Eye care;
- Renal disease;
- Hypertension and cardiovascular disease;
- Lipid management; and
- Patient education.

Section Five is an appendix which contains the review tools used to evaluate the published literature for Sections One and Three.

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Acknowledgments

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