

NYC Diabetes Newsletter

Spring 2007 Issue 1

Pilot Project Underway

Seven health care sites in NYC helped the Health Department develop feedback materials for providers and their patients using data from the NYC A1C Registry. The participating sites represent a range of facility types and patient populations, and are geographically diverse.

In November 2006 and February 2007, practices and their providers received reports summarizing the A1C control of their patients. In the spring of 2007, a small sample of patients with A1C > 9% received letters reporting their latest A1C results and outlining steps they could take with their providers to help improve their A1C. This letter is not intended to replace direct notification from the ordering provider but, rather, serves as a reinforcement and catalyst.

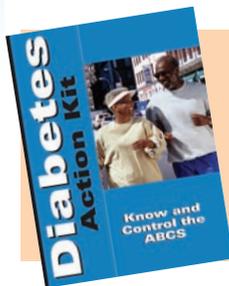
The Health Department's Diabetes Prevention and Control Program is using feedback from providers and patients to refine the project in preparation for the roll-out in the South Bronx.



The New York City A1C Registry

As clinicians, you are well aware that diabetes is epidemic in New York City. Prevalence has more than doubled over the past decade. Half a million New Yorkers now live with the diagnosis. An additional 200,000 have diabetes *but do not yet know it.*

In response to this growing public health concern, the New York City Board of Health has amended the health code to require that clinical laboratories report hemoglobin A1C results to the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. These results are now housed in the New York City A1C Registry within the Health Department.



“ The Health Department is using the A1C Registry to work with providers to improve the quality of care and the quality of life among New Yorkers with diabetes. ”

Roll-out in the South Bronx Planned

The South Bronx has one of New York City's highest adult diabetes prevalence: 13.7%, compared with 9.2% citywide. Because of this high prevalence, the Health Department's Diabetes Prevention and Control Program plans to first extend its A1C Registry outreach effort to South Bronx practices, providers and their patients by Summer 2007.

In anticipation of this roll-out, the program staff will soon visit South Bronx facilities to inform the health care community about the A1C Registry.

In addition to providing feedback materials to practices and their providers, we will offer to send letters to their patients.

The Health Department's Diabetes Prevention and Control Program will talk with health care providers about the tools and supports needed to improve their patients' ABCS (A1C, Blood Pressure, Cholesterol and Smoking Status).

We will provide further information in 2008, as this project expands into more areas of the city.

We welcome your feedback. Please contact the Diabetes Prevention and Control Program by calling 311.

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Diabetes Data Book

Diabetes in New York City: Public Health Burden and Disparities – a new report prepared by the Health Department – captures the devastating effects of the diabetes epidemic in NYC and the large disparities in its impact on different populations. Data compiled over the past few years are summarized in this first edition of the report, which will soon be available.

Contact the Diabetes Prevention and Control Program by calling 311, or visit our website at www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/diabetes/diabetes.shtml. You can see what diabetes materials are in stock and even print them for use in your practice.

