

Diabetes Awareness

March 23rd is Diabetes Alert Day ~ Please join with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) in promoting increased awareness of the diabetes-related preventive services covered by Medicare.

Medicare Coverage of Diabetes-Related Preventive Services

Medicare provides coverage of the following diabetes-related services for qualified Medicare beneficiaries:

- ✚ Diabetes screening tests
- ✚ Diabetes self-management training (DSMT)
- ✚ Medical nutrition therapy (MNT)
- ✚ Glaucoma screening (e.g. dilated eye exam with an intraocular pressure (IOP) measurement), and
- ✚ Diabetes supplies (e.g. glucose monitoring equipment and therapeutic shoes) and other services (e.g. foot care).

What Can You Do? As a trusted source of health care information, your patients rely on your recommendations. CMS requests your help to ensure that all of your eligible patients take advantage of diabetes-related preventive services covered by Medicare.

For More Information The Medicare Learning Network (MLN) has developed several educational products related to diabetes-related preventive services covered by Medicare:

- ✚ The Guide to Medicare Preventive Services for Physicians, Providers, Suppliers, and Other Health Care Professionals ~ this comprehensive resource provides coverage and coding information on the array of preventive services and screenings that Medicare covers, including diabetes-related services.
www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/mps_guide_web-061305.pdf
- ✚ The MLN Preventive Services Educational Products Web Page ~ This website provides descriptions and ordering information for MLN preventive services educational products and resources, including diabetes-related services. www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/35_PreventiveServices.asp
- ✚ Quick Reference Information: Medicare Preventive Services ~ this chart provides coverage and coding information on Medicare-covered preventive services, including diabetes-related services.
www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/MPS_QuickReferenceChart_1.pdf
- ✚ Diabetes-Related Services Brochure ~ This brochure provides an overview of Medicare's coverage of diabetes screening tests, diabetes self-management training, medical nutrition therapy, and supplies and other services for Medicare beneficiaries with diabetes.
www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/DiabetesSvc.pdf
- ✚ Glaucoma Screening Brochure ~ This brochure provides an overview of Medicare's coverage of glaucoma screening tests, including the dilated eye exam with an IOP measurement.
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/glaucoma.pdf>
- ✚ *** National Diabetes Education Program (NDEP) ~ <http://ndep.nih.gov/index.aspx> This website offers numerous resources to help your patients delay or prevent the development of type 2 diabetes, as well as resources to help your patients manage diabetes to prevent serious complications. Check out "Your GAME PLAN to Prevent Type 2 Diabetes: Information for Patients," a 3-page booklet to help people assess their risk for developing diabetes and take steps to prevent diabetes.
<http://ndep.nih.gov/publications/PublicationDetail.aspx?PubId=71>. For patients with diabetes, "The Power to Control Diabetes is in Your Hands", contains information about diabetes and related Medicare benefits, which is available at the following link:
<http://ndep.nih.gov/publications/OnlineVersion.aspx?NdepId=NDEP-38>
- ✚ <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/>