# Evidence-Based Testing and Improved Diabetes Outcomes in the PCMH—One Patient's Journey

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## Objectives

- Learn practical solutions to chronic disease management in the PCMH model
- Learn how to develop a practice culture to support improvement in diabetes care
- Learn how pattern analysis of blood glucose levels can improve diabetes outcomes
- Learn how to improve your patients' health literacy
- Learn how to correctly monitor and treat patients to prevent/delay the progression of chronic kidney disease
- Learn how to enhance the journey to physician-supervised patient self-management



## One Patient's Journey

- You're about to meet John—a virtual patient with type 2 diabetes
- During the course of this program we'll follow John's journey and learn how evidence-based self-testing can improve the quality of care he receives from the treatment team in a patient-centered medical home (PCMH) model



# The PCMH and Diabetes— The Poster Child for Chronic Care



## The Challenge of Diabetes

- Chronic disease reaching epidemic proportions
- Associated with significant morbidity, mortality, and costs—the leading cause of end-stage renal disease
- Highest burden in minorities and the elderly
- The majority of people with diabetes are treated in a primary care setting
- Average patient/provider interaction—8 minutes

A new Primary Care Physician (PCP) model of care is required to improve quality of care and optimize outcomes for patients with chronic disease



#### Access to Care and Information

- · Health care for all
- · Same-day appointments
- · After-hours access coverage
- · Lab results highly accessible
- · Online patient services
- · e-Visits
- · Group visits

#### **Practice Management**

- · Disciplined financial management
- Cost-benefit decision-making
- · Revenue enhancement
- · Optimized coding and billing
- · Personnel/HR management
- · Facilities management
- · Optimized office design/redesign
- Patient Centered Medical Home · Change management

#### **Practice Services**

- · Comprehensive care for both acute and chronic conditions
- · Prevention screening and services
- Surgical procedures
- Ancillary therapeutic and support services
- Ancillary diagnostic services

A continuous relationship with a personal physician coordinating care for both wellness and illness

- Mindful clinician-patient communication: trust, respect, shared decision-making
  - · Patient engagement
  - · Provider/patient partnership
  - Culturally sensitive care
  - . Continuous relationship
  - · Whole person care

#### Quality and Safety

· Evidence-based best practices

Health Information Technology

Electronic medical records

· Electronic prescribing

· Practice Web site · Patient portal

· Electronic orders and reporting

Evidence-based decision support

Population management registry

- · Medication management.
- · Patient satisfaction feedback
- · Clinical outcomes analysis
- · Quality improvement
- · Risk management
- · Regulatory compliance

#### Care Management

- Population management
- · Wellness promotion
- · Disease prevention
- · Chronic disease management
- Care coordination
- · Patient engagement and education
- · Leverages automated technologies

#### Continuity of Care Services

- · Community-based services
- · Collaborative relationships

Hospital care Pharmacy

Behavioral health care Physical Therapy Case Management

Maternity care Specialist care

· Provider leadership

· Shared mission and vision

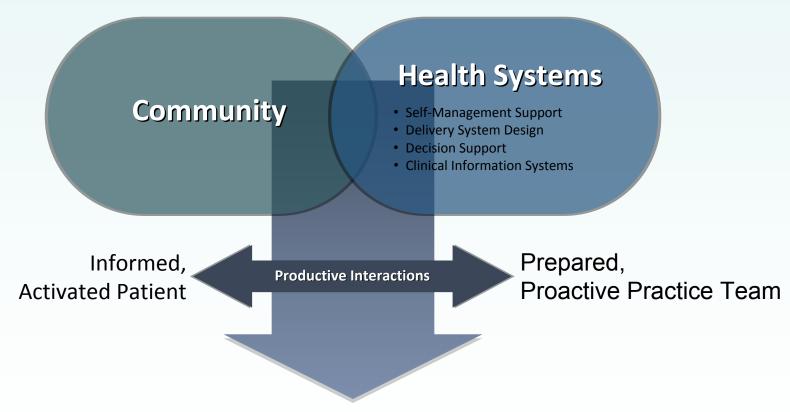
Practice-Based Care Team

- · Effective communication
- · Task designation by skill set
- · Nurse Practitioner / Physician Assistant
- · Patient participation
- · Family involvement options



## Wagner Chronic Care Model for Improvement of Chronic Illness Care

A Collaborative Care Model for Change



**Improved Outcomes** 



## Wagner Chronic Care Model: The Foundation of the Patient Journey

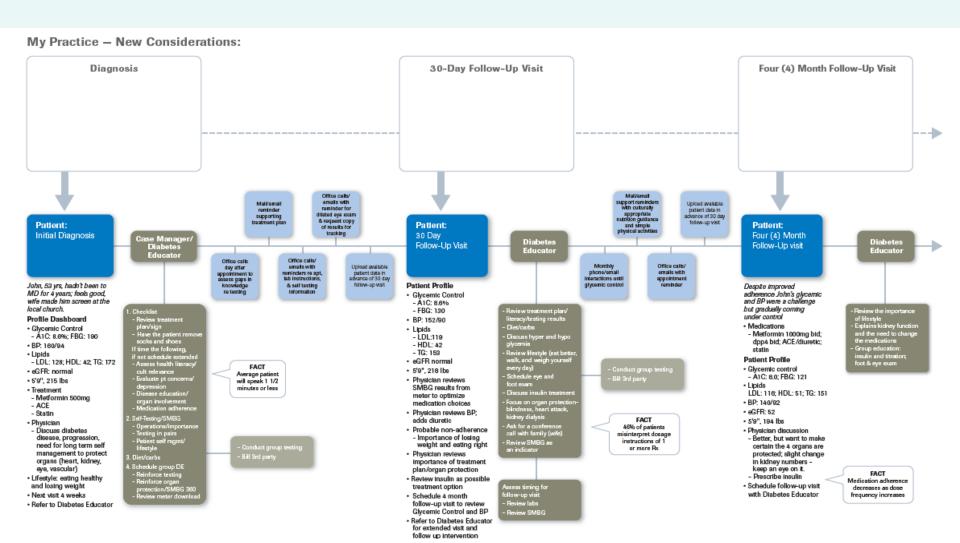
Patient Self- Management	Clinical Focus	Patient-Centric Approach	Tracking
<ul> <li>Emphasize patient role in managing illness         <ul> <li>Personal goals</li> <li>Tools to change behavior</li> </ul> </li> <li>1-1 and group education</li> <li>Cultural sensitivity and family involvement</li> <li>Measurement and feedback</li> <li>Improve patient communication with health care providers</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Education curriculum supported by evidence-based guidelines</li> <li>Care team works to maximize cooperation and application of best clinical expertise</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Anticipate problems and provide quality-of-life service</li> <li>Care team works together with patient         <ul> <li>Office task chart</li> <li>Accessible office hours/ same-day appts</li> <li>Organized patient visits</li> <li>Care team meets to review patient population work</li> </ul> </li> <li>Systems for communication and follow-up</li> <li>Patient follow-up calls and information</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Patient census</li> <li>EMR/paper record</li> <li>Reminder system for patient and case team</li> <li>Feedback loop</li> <li>Care planning</li> </ul>



## Mapping John's Journey



## John's Journey





## Team-Based Care: Every Member Plays a Part

### Shared Responsibilities to Reach a Common Goal

	Checked Blood Glucose Log	Motivational Interview	Checked Medication Adherence	Updated EMR	Distributed Educational Tools	Lifestyle Education (diet/exercise)	Outreach to Patient After Appointment
MD		✓ date	✓ date				
Nurse/NP/PA	✓ date			✓ date	✓ date	✓ date	
Office staff	✓ date			✓ date		✓ date	✓ date
Pharmacy		✓ date	✓ date		✓ date		

Sample Task List

## Team-Based Care: Improving Patient Engagement

- Works within your own practice setting—whether you have
   a staff of 2 or 12
  - Can include MD, nurse, office staff, pharmacist
  - If you do not have a CDE/diabetes coordinator, consider periodic access to one
- Provides each team member with a task list that clearly outlines specific roles and responsibilities
- Utilizes face-to-face communication, e-mails, phone calls, and electronic health records to streamline and to educate



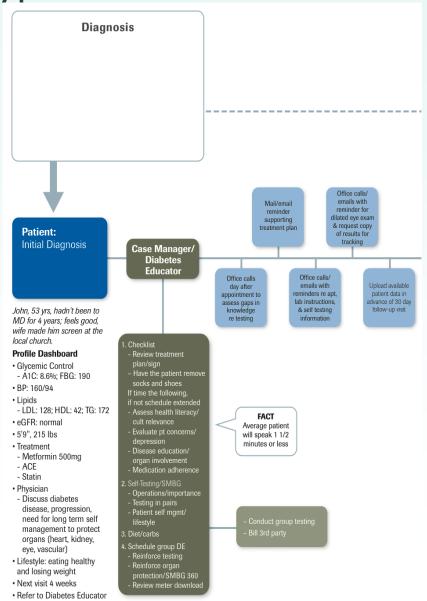
## Patient Registry: Improving Information Flow

- Information systems should be able to generate chronic disease registries<sup>1</sup>
- A computerized disease registry enables care team to<sup>2</sup>
  - Call in patients with specific needs
  - Deliver planned care
  - Receive feedback
  - Implement reminder systems
  - Compare data
    - Number of patients with diabetes
    - Number receiving oral meds/insulin
    - Number non-adherent



## John's Journey

## **DIAGNOSIS: Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus**





## John's Profile Dashboard: DIAGNOSIS

#### **Evidence-Based Considerations**

- •John has T2DM, stage 2 hypertension, and dyslipidemia
- •Physician considers nonpharmacologic/lifestyle and pharmacologic interventions

#### **Treat Forward: Goals**

•HbA1c: <7%

•BP: <130/80 mmHg

•LDL-C: <100 mg/dL (primary goal)

#### **Initiation of Treatment**

•T2DM: Metformin

•Hypertension management: ACE inhibitor and thiazide diuretic

Dyslipidemia: statin

•Non-pharmacologic/lifestyle changes: nutrition, exercise, sodium restriction, other

#### **Patient Dashboard**

Test	Data
Age	67 years
Height	5'9"
Weight	215 lb
ВМІ	31.7 kg/m² (obese)
Average of 3 office BP measurements	160/94 mmHg
HbA1c FPG	8.6% 190 mg/dL
Kidney Function	eGFR: 68 mL/min
LDL-C HDL-C TG	128 mg/dL 42 mg/dL 172 mg/dL
Diagnosis	Type 2 diabetes; stage 2 hypertension; dyslipidemia
Treatment	<ul><li>Metformin</li><li>ACE inhibitor and thiazide diuretic</li><li>Statin</li><li>Non-pharmacologic/lifestyle changes</li></ul>



## Role of Clinician at Diagnosis

- Emotional Support
  - Reassurance that patient is not alone; disease is manageable
  - Review/introduce clinical support team
- Clinical Overview
  - What does diabetes mean?
  - Overview of the disease, treatment, lifestyle issues
- Patient Empowerment
  - Self-management
  - Patient education—knowledge is power
    - Group classes
    - Community resources
- Schedule Follow-Up Appointments
  - 24- and 48- hour calls
  - CDE/Case Manager follow-up (1-2 weeks after diagnosis)
  - 30-day follow-up with provider
  - Other health care professionals as required, i.e., podiatrist, ophthalmologist
- Conduct Preliminary Health Literacy Assessment



## John's Journey: Follow-Up Visit with CDE; Two Weeks After Diagnosis

- John meets with Maria, a diabetes educator
- Maria works with two local group practices.
   She's in the office of John's physician twice weekly
- Maria assesses John's understanding of his condition and self-management
  - Is he overwhelmed or excessively worried? Is he sleeping well?
    - Is he physically active?
  - Does he understand his disease?
    - Is he paying attention to his symptoms and health problems?
  - Does he know how to use a meter? Is he using it properly?
    - Is he monitoring and recording his glucose levels?



## PCMH CARE CONSIDERATION: EVIDENCE-BASED TESTING



### An Introduction:

## Recommended Tests for Type 2 Diabetes

#### Glycosylated Hemoglobin (HbA1c)

- Evaluate at least twice a year in patients who are meeting treatment goals and have stable glycemic control
- Evaluate quarterly in patients whose therapy has changed or who are not meeting goals
- Use of point-of-care testing for HbA1c allows for timely treatment-related decisions and changes

#### **Blood Pressure**

- Measure during every routine visit
- Patients with a blood pressure level of ≥130/80 mmHg should have measurement confirmed on another day—repeat reading of ≥130 mmHg or ≥80 mmHg confirms hypertension

#### Lipids

- Obtain a fasting lipid profile at least annually
- In adult patients with low-risk values, testing can be repeated every two years

#### **Kidney Function**

- Evaluate the albumin:creatinine ratio
- Evaluate the estimated glomerular filtration rate

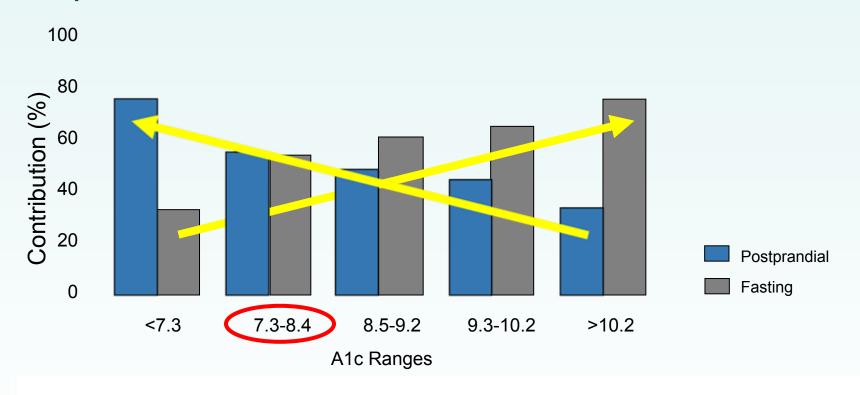


## **Emerging Concepts**

- Early initiation of treatment and persistent adjustment of therapy is vital
- There is a relationship between fasting glucose, postprandial glucose and A1c
- Reducing glycemic variability—especially, postprandial excursions—is an important goal of glucose control<sup>1-3</sup>

Ceriello A. The post-prandial state and cardiovascular disease: relevance to diabetes, Diabetes Metab Res Rev, 2005;16:125-132
 Monnier L et al. Activation of oxidative stress by acute glucose fluctuations compared with sustained chronic hyperglycemia in patients with type 2 diabetes, JAMA, 2006;295:23 FUM

## Variable Relationship Between Fasting and Postprandial Glucose in A1c



#### So what does this mean?

- •A1c >8.0% → probably means a problem with fasting bG
- •A1c <8.0% → probably means a problem with postprandial bG



## What the A1c Doesn't Tell You

- Occurrence/severity of hypoglycemic events
- Glycemic variability throughout the day (and night)
- Effects of different meals and snacks
- Effects of physical activity
- Effects of medications

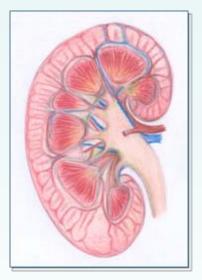
So, how do you know where to start or what to do?



## Targeted Management in Diabetes to Protect Target Organs



Diabetes is one of the most important risk factors for cardiovascular disease.<sup>1</sup>



In developed countries, diabetes is the leading cause of chronic kidney disease .<sup>1</sup>

The prognosis for patients with both cardiovascular disease and chronic kidney disease is far worse than that for patients with either condition alone. That combination is a powerful predictor of major adverse cardiovascular events and death.<sup>1</sup>





The estimated lifetime risk for foot ulcer in diabetic individuals is 15%.<sup>2</sup>

Approximately 4.1 million US adults 40 years or older have diabetic retinopathy, and one of every 12 people with diabetes in that age group has advanced vision-threatening retinopathy.<sup>3</sup>

## Testing Should Be Proactive

- Test forward—treat forward—establish short-term and long-term goals
- Test at the right frequency, at the right times, and in the right situations to provide the information needed for better treatment decisions
- Excellence in care begins when the patient and clinician agree on:
  - The goal of glycemic control
  - Why monitoring blood glucose levels is necessary
  - When and how frequently blood glucose levels must be tested
  - Target blood glucose values (fasting, preprandial, postprandial)
  - How to record and share test results



## Why Patients Don't Self-Monitor

- Lack specific instructions on how and when to test
- Cost-prohibitive
- Discomfort, inconvenience
- Hyper/hypoglycemia is often asymptomatic—"No need to test"
- Not sure what to do with information
- Provider does not review and discuss glucose numbers with them

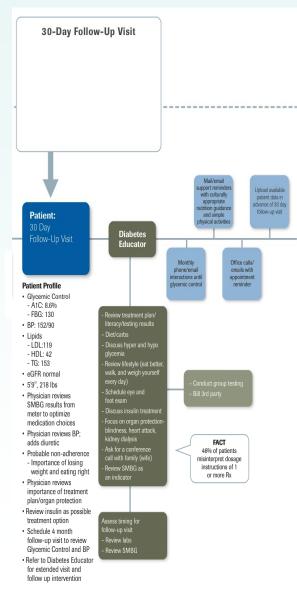


## Why Clinicians Don't Utilize SMBG\* Data

- Data are not available—patient doesn't bring meter or logbook
- Patient brings meter, but not logbook or graphs
- Patient checks infrequently
- Not enough time to analyze data
- Difficult to analyze data
- Limited discussion of findings between patient and clinician
- Uncertainty about moving from data to treatment choices
- Cost



## The Patient Journey: John's 30-Day Follow-Up Visit





## Patient Profile Dashboard John: 30-Day Follow-Up Visit

#### **Evidence-Based Considerations**

John's glycemic control, lipids, and blood pressure have all improved. His eGFR suggests renal insufficiency, which should be included in clinical decision-making.

#### **Treat Forward: Goals**

•HbA1c: <7%

•BP: <130/80 mmHg

•LDL-C: <100 mg/dL (primary goal)

#### **Current Values**

•Glycemic Control

• HbA1c: 8.6%

• FPG: 130 mg/dL

•BP: 152/90 mmHg

•Kidney function: 65 mL/min

Lipids

LDL-C: 108 mg/dL

• HDL-C: 50 mg/dL

• TG: 148 mg/dL

#### **Treatment**

- Maintain drug therapy
- •Adjust medication doses to protect renal function
- •Review insulin therapy as possible treatment option

#### **Patient Dashboard**

Test	Data
Age	67 years
Height	5'9"
Weight	203 lbs
Average of 3 office BP measurements	152/90 mmHg
HbA1c FPG	8.6% 130 mg/dL
Kidney Function	eGFR: 65 mL/min
LDL-C HDL-C TG	108 mg/dL 50 mg/dL 148 mg/dL

## **Pre-Visit Preparation**

### **Health Care Team**

- •Is EMR up to date, including SMBG data?
- Has clinician reviewed SMBG data?
- Has a reminder call been placed to John asking him to bring logs/diary, etc.?



## Physician Discussion Points

- Review available lab results
- Review SMBG data and reinforce importance and meaning of readings
- Review patient/provider contract and reinforce messages
- Schedule follow-up visits



## PCMH Care Consideration: Health Literacy



## Indicators of Limited Health Literacy

### Behaviors that may suggest literacy problems

- Frequently missed appointments<sup>1</sup>
- •Registration forms that are incomplete or inaccurately completed<sup>1,2</sup>
- Non-adherence with medication regimens<sup>1</sup>
- Patients say they are taking their medications, but lab tests or physiologic parameters do not change as expected<sup>1</sup>
- Reluctance to take written materials—reliance on oral explanations and demonstrations<sup>2</sup>
- •Intermediaries serve as surrogate readers<sup>2</sup>



## Indicators of Limited Health Literacy

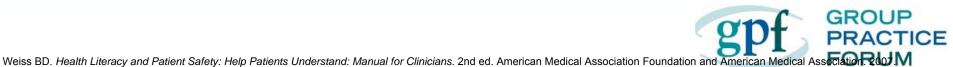
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#### Responses to receiving written instructions:

- "I forgot my glasses"
- "I'll read this when I get home"
- "Can you read this to me?"
- "Let me bring this home so I can discuss it with my children"

### Responses to questions about medication regimens:

 Unable to name medications and explain what they're used for



## **Assessing Health Literacy**

- Patients don't always fully understand information they receive
  - Among 395 primary care clinic patients in three cities— Shreveport, LA; Jackson, MI; Chicago, IL—46% of patients misinterpreted dosage instructions for one or more medications<sup>1</sup>
- In a study in the clinical care setting, the average patient spoke for ≤1½ minutes during an appointment<sup>2</sup>

## Increase Health Literacy Via Proactive Care Management

- Ask patients (via a paper questionnaire) how many years of school they have completed<sup>1</sup>
- Take your time during appointments and speak slowly<sup>2</sup>
- Avoid complicated language<sup>2</sup>
- Use visual aids such as pictures or videos<sup>2</sup>
- Simplify explanations and instructions—and repeat them<sup>2</sup>
- Ensure medication dosing instructions are clear
  - Poor example for dosage instructions: Take 2 tablets by mouth daily
    - Possible interpretations: Take 2 tablets once-daily OR take 1 tablet twice-daily
- Use a "teach back" or "show me" approach to confirm understanding<sup>2</sup>
  - Have patient explain information back to you to ensure he or she understands
- Help the patient feel comfortable—in executing these approaches, avoid making the patient feel embarrassed or ashamed<sup>2</sup>



## Health Numeracy is <u>Different from Health Literacy</u>

- Numeracy-related tasks are common in health care, particularly in patients with diabetes who must interpret blood glucose readings
- Patients may have adequate reading ability but poor numeracy skills
- Diabetes Numeracy Tests have shown that patients with diabetes had problems with:
  - Calculating carbohydrate intake
  - Understanding glucose meter readings
  - Interpreting sliding scale measures
  - Titrating oral medications or insulin
- Higher scores on the Diabetes Numeracy Test were associated with greater diabetes knowledge and higher perceived self-efficacy



## Consistently Reinforce and Ensure that Patients Understand...

- Their disease
  - The role they play in self-management
  - The availability of simple tools to help them
- The test results
  - Labs
  - SMBG data
- What it all means
- That there is a team to support them



## PCMH CARE CONSIDERATION: DIABETIC RENAL DISEASE



### Renal Disease and Diabetes

- Nearly 40% of patients with type 2 diabetes have chronic kidney disease (CKD)<sup>1,2</sup>
- About 20% have moderate-to-severe CKD or end stage renal disease (ESRD)<sup>1</sup>
- People with diabetes and CKD are at high risk to lose kidney function and experience adverse cardiovascular events<sup>3</sup>



### Diabetes, Hypertension, and Renal Disease

- Inadequately controlled diabetes and hypertension increase the risk of progression of CKD to ESRD¹
- During the past three decades, both the incidence and prevalence of ESRD have increased progressively<sup>2</sup>

## **Monitoring Renal Function**

- Serum creatinine should not be the only means used to estimate GFR
- Current KDOQI guidelines state that clinicians should estimate the GFR level from prediction equations that take into account the serum creatinine concentration and some or all of the following variables: age, sex, race, and body size



# Multifaceted Approach Can Prevent/Delay/Reverse <a href="Progression of Renal Disease: The Steno Diabetes">Progression of Renal Disease: The Steno Diabetes</a> Trial <a href="Treatment goals">Treatment goals</a>

- Systolic blood pressure <130 mmHg</li>
- Diastolic blood pressure <80 mmHg</li>
- •HbA1c <6.5%
- Total cholesterol <175 mg/dL</li>
- Triglycerides <150 mg/dL</li>
- ACE inhibitor or ARB regardless of blood pressure
- Aspirin
- Smoking cessation
- Vitamin/mineral supplement



## HMG Medical Home Platform to Reliably Produce Optimal Medical Therapy

## CABG and stents do not prevent heart attack or death in stable patients—COURAGE

#### **Optimal Medical Dramatically Lowers Risk—Steno2**

Risk Factor Control	Usual Care vs Aggressive Care	Events
BP: 130/80	4x	MI
HbA1c: 7.0	5x	Stroke
LDL: 70	11x	Stent
TG: 150	6x	Dialysis
	3x	Amputation



## Quarterly Risk Factor Reporting by Provider

# DM Pts		% Pts Meeting A1c\LDL\and BP Goals	Avg A1c	LDL	HDL	CHOL	TRIG	SYS BP	DIA BP	WGT	- 1
318	60	18.9%	7.1	93	41	171	195	129	75	219	34.7
174	37	21.3%	7.1	96	44	175	182	128	75	221	34.8
279	67	24.0%	7.0	92	41	166	177	127	74	224	34.6
210	70	33.3%	6.8	88	41	164	190	125	72	212	33.0
166	60	36.1%	6.9	84	42	161	171	123	74	207	32.6
313	139	44.4%	6.7	86	41	159	162	124	71	205	32.1
226	47	20.8%	7.0	97	42	177	207	125	76	208	33.0
346	117	33.8%	6.8	93	42	168	171	125	74	209	31.9
264	56	21.2%	6.9	94	41	171	185	130	76	216	32.9
285	88	30.9%	7.1	86	41	164	192	126	74	216	33.1
102	22	21.6%	7.0	87	41	162	191	126	79	213	32.6
269	59	21.9%	7.2	92	40	171	202	128	78	215	33.1
187	69	36.9%	6.9	78	42	152	164	124	72	209	32.2
254	71	28.0%	7.1	89	40	168	208	127	69	215	33.0
163	33	20.2%	6.9	98	43	178	189	130	77	199	32.8
192	63	32.8%	6.8	90	43	168	174	123	73	209	33.7
354	70	19.8%	7.1	99	42	178	193	128	77	209	32.1
380	91	23.9%	7.1	97	41	177	202	127	76	214	33.0
175	49	28.0%	7.1	85	41	161	182	129	75	209	32.0
232	74	31.9%	6.8	90	41	166	176	126	71	213	33.3
187	48	25.7%	6.9	83	41	162	195	130	75	214	32.9
169	23	13.6%	7.3	107	42	186	196	132	75	211	32.6
169	56	33.1%	6.8	86	44	167	182	127	74	206	32.9
199	43	21.6%	6.9	101	44	183	203	124	77	208	33.6
321	50	15.6%	7.1	93	40	170	198	130	77	213	33.0

## Continuous Improvement HMG Diabetic Management

	May '01	Oct '10	WHB	NHANES '06
AIC	7.1	7.0	6.9	7.15
SBP	129	127	123	130.7
DBP	75	75	74	68.1
Total C	178	170	164	196.2
TG	195	188	171	203.2
HDL	42	41	42	50.6
LDL	96.7	92	84	108.2



### Patient-Centered Performance Matters

- WHB primary physician for 160 type 2 diabetics
- 66 of these had eGFR of <60 at entry</li>
- Managed very consistently with steno-type protocol
- Follow-up available on 63 patients

#### eGFR change on all patients (mL/min)

```
+7.8 on average
```

+6 >3-yr. follow-up

-0.5 expected decline/mo



## Despite Quality Focus and Infrastructure Very Substantial Performance Variation

	Best	Worst
AIC	6.7	7.3
SBP	124	132
DBP	71	75
Total C	159	186
TG	162	196
HDL	41	42
LDL	86	107
Wt	205	211
All %	44.4%	13.6%



### **Diabetes Trials Gluco-Centric**

## WHB results produced with minimal hypoglycemia, minimal postural hypotension, while facilitating weight loss

- •189 type 2 diabetic patients in clinic for 12 mo or longer
  - 5.22-lb weight reduction
  - 63% lost 13.4 lbs
  - 37% gained 8.9 lbs
- 94 type 2 diabetic patients in clinic for 24 mo or longer
  - 5.57-lb weight reduction
  - 59% lost 15.7 lbs
  - 41% gained 8.7 lbs



## High-Risk Cardiometabolic Protocol <u>Lifestyle Potentiates Medical Management</u>

#### Diet Is Most Critical

- Aggressive reduction of sugar content of food and drink
- Dramatic reduction of processed carbohydrate
   (need >5 g fiber per serving in carbs that are consumed)
- Fat limited to 20%-25% of total calories
- Reduce the glycemic index of foods consumed to less than table sugar

#### Exercise

 The equivalent of 30 min walking five days a week. Some is far better than nothing. Diet is primary. Patients with severe physical limitations can still improve risk with proper dietary instruction.

#### Adherence

 No one does this perfectly—aim for 19-20 meals per week. Enjoy the holidays. Poor choices during the entire season will undo progress.



## High-Value Medical Protocol for High-Risk Cardiometabolic Patients

#### **Goals:**

BP	LDL	Triglycerides	Glucose
<130/80	<70	<150	FBS 80-110
			A1C <7

Drug selection in order. If risk not at goal change therapy at current visit

(ACE/ARB)	Statin	Biguanide

Lisinopril Pravastatin Metformin

#### (CCB) Incretin

Amlodipine Exenatide, etc.

Thiazide

Chlorthalidone, HCTZ

#### Aldosterone blocker

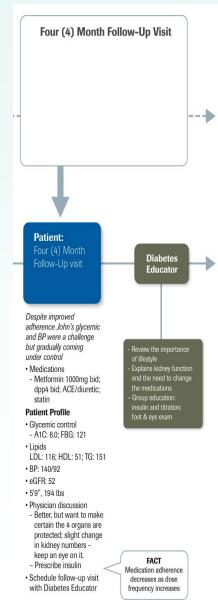
Spironolactone, eplerenone (men)

#### **Basal Insulin**

Bolus pramlintide



## John's Journey: 120-Day Follow-Up Visit





# Patient Profile Dashboard John: 120-Day Follow-Up Visit

#### **Evidence-Based Considerations**

John's glycemic control, lipids, and blood pressure have all improved. Treatment has been adjusted according to renal insufficiency.

#### **Treat Forward: Goals**

•HbA1c: <7%

•BP: <130/80 mmHg

•LDL-C: <100 mg/dL (primary goal)

#### **Current Values**

Glycemic Control

• HbA1c: 8.0%

• FPG: 118 mg/dL

•BP: 140/92 mmHg

•Kidney function: 52 mL/min

Lipids

LDL-C: 116 mg/dLHDL-C: 51 mg/dL

• TG: 151 mg/dL

#### **Treatment**

Maintain drug therapy

•Keep patient engaged in diabetes care plan

Prescribe insulin

#### **Patient Dashboard**

Test	Data
Age	67 years
Height	5'9"
Weight	194 lbs
Average of 3 office BP measurements	140/92 mmHg
HbA1c FPG	8.0% 118 mg/dL
Kidney Function	eGFR: 52 mL/min
LDL-C HDL-C TG	116 mg/dL 51 mg/dL 151 mg/dL



### Summary

- Diabetes is reaching epidemic proportions and the majority of patients are treated in the primary care setting
- Practices are now incorporating the principles of PCMH into the management of patients with chronic disease
- The Patient Journey program is designed to address the pillars of the chronic care and PCMH models—self-management, clinical focus, patient-centric approach, tracking
- Pattern analysis of blood glucose levels can improve diabetes outcomes
- Practices need to adopt a proactive approach for improving patient health literacy
- Renal disease needs to be appropriately monitored and managed in patients with diabetes in order to prevent/delay progression

