



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**News Release**

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GOVERNOR

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**HAWAII AMONG TOP IN THE NATION FOR DIABETES CARE**

HONOLULU — The State of Hawaii was recognized by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for achieving two Healthy People 2010 objectives in diabetes management. Hawaii is one of seven states that has far exceeded the national objectives by increasing the rates of annual foot and eye examinations among people with diabetes. The Healthy People 2010 objectives for annual foot and eye examinations for people with diabetes both have a target of 75 percent; in Hawaii those rates are 79.3 percent and 82.6 percent, respectively.

The Hawaii State Diabetes Prevention and Control Program (HSDPCP) accepted the honor on behalf of the State at the CDC in Atlanta last week. Although the HSDPCP received the award, it is the combined individual, public, and private efforts that have led to this achievement. It is only through the work and dedication of all the community partners involved in diabetes care that these national objectives were achieved.

There are approximately 100,000 people in Hawaii with diabetes, nearly 25,000 of whom are undiagnosed. Diabetes is a chronic disease of metabolism that affects the way the body uses food for energy. The complications of untreated and unmanaged diabetes are severe and include kidney failure, blindness, lower limb amputations, and heart disease. Consistent medical treatment with healthy diet and physical activity are key to managing

the disease. Annual foot and eye examinations are integral components of diabetes care. Exceeding the Healthy People 2010 objectives is a great achievement and one which is helping to assure better outcomes for people with diabetes.

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