

**MINUTES**  
**Texas Diabetes Council**  
**April 22, 2004**

The April 22, 2004 quarterly meeting of the Texas Diabetes Council was called to order at 1:30 p.m., at the Texas Department of Health, Moreton Building, Room 739 by Lawrence B. Harkless, DPM, Chair, presiding.

**Texas Diabetes Council Members in Attendance:**

Lawrence B. Harkless, DPM – Chair  
Gene Bell, RN, CFNP, CDE - Secretary  
Judith L. Haley – Vice Chair  
Jeffery Ross, DPM, MD  
Randy Byron Baker  
Margaret G. Pacillas, RN  
Lenore Frances Katz  
Richard (Rick) Hayley  
Victor H. Gonzalez, MD

**State Agency Representatives:**

Tom Waggoner (Texas Education Agency)  
Linda G. Robinson (Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services)  
Grace Elinsway (Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services)

Dr. Harkless, Chair welcomed new members. Mrs. Bell, Secretary, called the roll. Mrs. Bell announced that a quorum was present.

Mrs. Bell announced that Belinda Bazan-Lara and Avery Rhodes were unable to attend the meeting and had furnished information on their necessary absences.

ON A MOTION BY MARGARET PACILLAS, AND SECONDED BY RICK HAYLEY TO EXCUSE ABSENCES OF BELINDA BAZAN-LARA AND AVERY RHODES. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Presentations:**

Michael Rice, MD, discussed diabetes in geriatric populations and how early detection of diabetes and quality of life for older patients should be of utmost concern.

**Minutes:**

ON A MOTION MADE BY DR. VICTOR GONZALEZ, AND SECONDED BY DR. JEFFREY ROSS THAT MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 22, 2004, QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE TEXAS DIABETES COUNCIL BE APPROVED AS WRITTEN. MOTION PASSED.

**Chair's Report:**

Dr. Harkless reported that he had:

- 1) spoken to Debra Owens, Chief, Bureau of Vital Statistics who is open to Council's suggestions on changes to death certificates.
- 2) attended the February 18 House Public Health Committee hearing on diabetes to address diabetes, podiatry services and Medicaid issues.
- 3) spoke to Rep. Taylor and Vickie Truett, and contacted Rep. Jose Menendez, (Appropriations committee) to discuss the feasibility of reinstating podiatry as an adult Medicaid service.
- 4) received a written message from US Representative Charles Gonzalez (20th District, Texas) requesting input on legislation that relates to prevention and treatment of diabetes and offering services to cosponsor any pending legislation that would help.

On May 17, he and Dr Ozias will meet with UTHSC San Antonio faculty for assessment of diabetes content and activities in professional preparation, continuing education, research and use of telecommunications.

**Presentation:**

Dr. Lance Sloan, Chair, Texas chapter of American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists (AACE) updated the Council on advocacy and programmatic efforts directed to obesity. He outlined AACE Power of Prevention project ( video for sixth graders, presentation about food, exercise choices) which will be available free of charge to school districts. He summarized federal bills related to diabetes or obesity including:

HR 3178 — Health & Education Access (affirming that students with diabetes may carry their prescribed testing and medication administration supplies)

HR 2227 — Obesity Prevention Act (awards to education agencies for model programs). S 1666 — Diabetes Prevention and Treatment Act

HR 1022 — Urban and Rural Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Act of 2003

HR 716/ S 1172 — Improved Nutrition and Physical Activity Act (IMPACT Act).

HR 2553 – Minority Diabetes Initiative Act – (grants to providers for treatment of diabetes in minority communities)

### **Health Care Professionals (HCPC) Advisory Committee Reports:**

#### **Medical Professionals Advisory Committee:**

Craig Spellman, DO, PhD, Chair, Health Care Professionals Advisory Committee reported progress on new algorithms and recommended adoption of two new products and a bibliography to accompany the current Glycemic Control algorithm.

1. Prevention and delay of type 2 diabetes in patients with IFG and IGT. .

ON A MOTION BY RANDY BAKER, AND SECONDED BY RICK HAYLEY, TO ACCEPT THE NEW PREVENTION AND DELAY OF TYPE 2 DIABETES IN PATIENTS WITH IFG AND IGT. THE ALGORITHM IS TO BE RE-ASSESSED YEARLY AS OUTLINED BY DR SPELLMAN. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Judy Haley asked for the committee's attention to children who were unsuccessful in treatment of IFG and IGT because metformin is not FDA-approved for children. Algorithms will be updated and glycemic control bibliography will be added.

ON A MOTION BY JUDY HALEY, SECONDED BY DR. JEFFREY ROSS, TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO UPDATE ALGORITHMS AND GLYCEMIC CONTROL BIBLIOGRAPHY AS OUTLINED BY DR SPELLMAN. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. New Diabetic foot care algorithm – page 1, correct spelling of 'breakdown.' Page 2, in MSK add "Charcot foot" ; page 2 in foot wear item #2, add "counter distortion".

ON A MOTION BY DR. JEFFREY ROSS, AND SECONDED BY JUDY HALEY, TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDED FOOT CARE ALGORITHM WITH CHANGES AS STATED BY DR. SPELLMAN. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. A hospital insulin administration algorithm is pending.

4. On the matter of A1c target, the consensus was to delay discussion of a target of "less 6.5" which is an acceptable level and to review data on the components of A1c, i.e., fasting glucose and changing recommendations regarding target 2-hour post- prandial levels. Drs. Spellman and Sloan requested to present to Council on this topic at next meeting.

Dr. Spellman mentioned Texas Medicaid "preferred "drug list will probably need to be addressed by state legislature. He continues to recommend that diabetes be carved out as other chronic diseases which are complex and life-threatening.

#### **Affiliated Group: Diabetes Coalition of Texas**

Lenore Katz, Chair thanked the organizations and stakeholders who assisted with the efforts to pass the

school bill last session. They praised the work of the Texas Agricultural Commissioner for recognizing the impact of “junk” foods on children’s health. There is concern that some of the efforts initiated may be rolled back due to industry or school pressures Ms. Katz reported on the suggestions made to the Bureau of Vital Statistics on the methods to improve the reporting of diabetes on death certificates, i.e., to add a diabetes check box to increase accurate reporting of diabetes as a contributing factor in addition to a prompt in Part I to indicate diabetes as an underlying cause of death.

The group discussed the potential to generate revenue for diabetes care, such as a vanity license plate for which the proceeds would go to the BEST Program for treatment of retinopathy. The coalition discussed letters to restaurants or chambers of commerce to recommend giving patrons healthy choices in their menus. She recommended the Council produce a glucometer fact sheet and statement about insurance coverage for meters. They suggested distributing TDC algorithms to hospitals and hospital associations. On the matter of implementing the Texas Pediatric Diabetes Research Advisory recommendations, Dr. Maria Alen is pursuing seed money for the function of collecting and storing voluntary tissue samples for scientific use.

Margaret Pacillas added that the Council should inquire how the food stamp program could limit purchases of foods with minimal nutritional value and if it would require a change in federal/state law governing the Lone Star Card.

There is a Interim committee to discuss health and nutrition in schools. The Coalition discussed the possibility of an award for schools that are in compliance with nutritional guidelines. Dr. Harkless asked that these issues be pursued at the next TDC meeting.

A party contacted Ms Katz concerned that on renewal of a non-commercial driver’s license, the staff asked the party for the number of units of insulin. The party was referred to American Diabetes Association legal advocacy.

Judy Haley reported on Texans for the Advancement of Medical Research; more legislators are becoming supportive of stem cell research.

Rick Hayley inquired if Council can pursue a requirement that algorithms be followed by primary care providers. Discussion followed.

ON MOTION BY LENORE KATZ, SECONDED BY JUDY HALEY, THAT THE TEXAS DIABETES COUNCIL SEND A LETTER TO US CONGRESS MEMBERS FROM TEXAS SUPPORTING PODIATRY AS A COVERED BENEFIT FOR ADULTS ON MEDICAID AND HR 2959.

**Executive Director report:**

Dr. Ozias referred to the written report and stated that the consolidation of agencies may affect the representation of the non-voting agency membership on the Council.

Proposed Eye Program Rules changes were approved by the Board of Health for posting and public comment on January 15. They were posted in the Texas Register for a thirty-day comment period and will be submitted for final approval at the July Board of Health meeting.

The Council will hold its regular quarterly meeting July 15 in Corpus Christi. Member Rick Hayley will assist staff with planning and coordination.

Dr. Ozias recommended the Council sponsorship support of \$3,000 for the October 2, 2004 South Texas Diabetes Consortium Biennial Conference held in Corpus Christi.

ON A MOTION BY RICK HAYLEY, AND SECONDED BY JUDY HALEY, TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF \$3,000 SUPPORT TO THE SOUTH TEXAS DIABETES CONSORTIUM CONFERENCE OCTOBER 2004. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Dr. Ozias offered Council's appreciation to staff for their hard work in coordinating and preparations for the Council, committees and state plan meetings.

**Member Announcements:**

Rick Hayley reported the committee on law enforcement training is awaiting guidelines from American Diabetes Association which should be available by October. Training of law enforcement officers includes medical emergencies and safe handling of persons experiencing a problem such as hypoglycemia.

Dr. Ross reported the Texas Round-Up had a great showing, including 6,000 runners in Austin and 20,000 statewide this past weekend. Surgeon General Carmona, Dr. Kenneth Cooper, and Commissioners of Health and of Agriculture attended the RoundUp and spoke on the matters of obesity, exercise and type 2 diabetes among youth. He also reported on VERB – after school program activities, CATCH nutrition, and prevention.

Lenore Katz will receive an American Diabetes Association Leadership Award.

**Program Reports:**

As written. Linda Dickens, PhD, on behalf of University of Texas at Austin's contract (Walk Texas) summarized an evaluation study of the Diabetes Awareness and Education in the Community projects (1999-2004). She concluded that for community-based programs there is no single set of "best practices" for diverse locations but the process by which groups develop the content can be fairly consistent.

**Agency Reports:**

Texas Department of Health: In Dr Huang's absence, Dr Ozias was asked to announce the status of changes in the pending Department of State Health Services.

Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services: Dr. Harkless reported the BEST Program as given to him by Linda G. Robinson.

Grace Elinsway was introduced as the new representative for the Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS). Ms. Elinsway works in the Division of Rehabilitation Services.

Texas Department of Human Services: None

Texas Education Agency: Dr. Waggoner reported that the position vacated by Dr. Fleming's retirement will be filled and the party will likely represent TEA on the Council.

Public Comment: None.

Adjournment

ON A MOTION BY JUDY HALEY, AND A SECOND BY MARGARET PACILLAS, THE COUNCIL VOTED TO ADJOURN AT 5:35 pm.