

MINUTES
Texas Diabetes Council
October 28, 2004

The October 28, 2004 quarterly meeting of the Texas Diabetes Council was called to order at 1:20 p.m., at the Texas Department of State Health Services, Room T-607, by Lawrence B. Harkless, DPM, Chair.

Texas Diabetes Council Members in Attendance:

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

State Agency Representatives:

Grace Elinsway, MEd, (Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services)
Philip Huang, MD, MPH, (Department of State Health Services)
Monica Martinez, (Texas Education Agency) for Karen Batchelor, MEd

Mrs. Bell, Secretary, called the roll and announced that a quorum was present. Randy Baker was unable to attend but furnished information on his necessary absence. Belinda Bazan-Lara was unable to attend due to family illness. Avery Rhodes was unable to attend due to a required training at her employment.

ON A MOTION BY DR. JEFFERY ROSS, AND SECONDED BY JUDY HALEY TO EXCUSE THE ABSENCE OF RANDY BAKER, BELINDA BAZAN-LARA, AND AVERY RHODES. MOTION CARRIED.

Health Care Professionals (HCPC) Advisory Committee Reports:

Medical Professionals Advisory Committee:

Craig Spellman, DO, PhD, Chair, Health Care Professionals Advisory Committee reported progress and recommended adoption of revised targets to be noted on all algorithms.

1. Amend the A1c to <6.5%
2. Amend the companion target FPG/SMBG <110 mg/dL
3. Continue the target 2-hr PPG/SMBG <140-180 mg/dL
4. Add a statement as follows: *Individualization is recommended for those with chronic disease states or other comorbidities associated with high risk of hypoglycemic events.

ON A MOTION BY RICK HAYLEY, SECONDED BY DR. VICTOR GONZALEZ, TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION TO UPDATE THE TARGETS BOX ON ALL ALGORITHMS AS OUTLINED BY DR SPELLMAN. MOTION CARRIED

Drs. Spellman and Jackson presented the advisory committees' recommendation to amend the Insulin algorithm for type 2 diabetes in children and adults as follows:

1. To delete the term "combination" with respect to oral agent failure;
2. To add a pathway to advance from once daily insulin (QDI) directly to intensive insulin therapy (IIT) in addition to current pathway from once daily to multi-dose insulin therapy (MDI);
3. To elaborate dosing information in intensive therapy to accommodate for an initial level of at least 0.5 units/kg/day.

ON A MOTION BY RICK HAYLEY, AND SECONDED BY DR. VICTOR GONZALEZ TO AMEND THE INSULIN ALGORITHM FOR TYPE 2 DIABETES AS RECOMMENDED. MOTION CARRIED.

Dr. Spellman reported that Kent Porter, PharmD, demonstrated how he had reconfigured the IV Insulin protocol to a form that can be downloaded to a palm-size digital assistive device (PDA). This would assist physicians to be more comfortable accessing algorithms for their hospitalized patients. The advisory committee recommends pursuing the ability to download this and other algorithms.

ON A MOTION BY MARGARET PACILLAS, AND SECONDED BY JUDY HALEY TO ACCEPT RECOMMENDATION THAT A LINK BE MADE FROM THE ALGORITHM WEB PAGE TO DOWNLOAD ALGORITHM VERSIONS TO PDA'S MAKING ALGORITHMS AVAILABLE TO PHYSICIANS IN THIS MANNER AND PURSUE MAKING OTHERS AVAILABLE FOR PDAs. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

It was further discussed that the IV insulin protocol should be presented to hospitals as a standard of care. It is suited for use as a clinical pathway unless the patient's physician determines another plan of care.

Presentations:

Barbara Keir was introduced as the Manager of the new Chronic Disease Branch, Department of State Health Services. The Diabetes Council will continue to be supported within the re-organized Branch.

Barbara Ramsey of McKesson Health Solutions briefed the Council on the HHSC Disease Management contract to serve adults enrolled in Texas fee-for-service Medicaid pursuant to the 78th Legislature direction to Health and Human Services. Excluded are children under age 18 years and adults in skilled nursing facilities or those with end-stage renal disease or organ transplant. Counties with the largest numbers of likely clients (who voluntarily enroll) are Bexar, Hidalgo, Dallas, Cameron and Nueces. The program intends to increase client access to preventive health care; improve the coordination of care; and reduce unnecessary hospital days. Key activities would enhance services to enrolled clients, not change physician practice. McKesson bears total financial risk for its fees. McKesson's medical director is reviewing the TDC algorithms as resources. Outcomes for measurement will include: A1c, blood pressure (target 130/80 or better), foot exam, pneumonia vaccination, no tobacco use, use of aspirin, and ACE inhibitor. Self-management training needs would be assessed by the registered nurse who creates the care plan. Ms. Ramsey responded to other questions and will stay in contact with the Council and program staff as the service is implemented.

Minutes of July 2004 meeting:

ON A MOTION MADE BY JUDY HALEY, AND SECONDED BY MARGARET PACILLAS THAT MINUTES OF THE JULY 15, 2004, QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE TEXAS DIABETES COUNCIL BE APPROVED AS WRITTEN. MOTION PASSED.

Executive Director's Report

Dr. Ozias reported on assignments from the Texas House Public Health Committee interim study of diabetes. Staff prepared an inventory of diabetes self-management education providers in Texas (chart in packet).

The state appropriation remains \$2,895,000 for fiscal year 2005. The 79th Legislature convenes January 11, 2005.

The Governor's Office will issue a Proclamation announcing November as Diabetes Month in Texas and deliver it to the Program office.

Dr. Ozias recommended that in light of other events planned for state legislators on February 8 that the Council not host a separate diabetes information event. American Diabetes Association will recognize legislators who champion diabetes issues at a fund-raising lunch. The Kidney Coalition will feature Dialysis for the annual awareness event.

Chair's Report:

Dr. Harkless met with Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs in September as confirmed in the letter in the Council packet. He is pursuing access to electronic medical record systems from the Veteran's Administration that can be shared with physician offices. He thanked Donna Jones for the Council's media training conducted the evening and charged members to work with local print, radio and television media.

Member Announcements:

Dr. Ross reported on the Joint Interim Committee on Health and Nutrition in Public Schools and his assistance to Commissioner Combs to meet with William Klish, MD. He summarized the Governor's Conference on Childhood Obesity which he and Ms. Katz attended. An estimated one-third of the elementary schools appear to be implementing SB 19 (77th Legislature), now Education Code, Section 38.014, requirements for daily physical activity, and about 10% have the required school health advisory committee. Mrs. Katz underscored the identified need to strengthen the enforcement of the law. Dr. Ross identified ZerObesity, a campaign proposed by American Cancer Society (Texas affiliate) and Enviromedia based on the successful multiple-approaches model to tobacco use.

Healthcare Professionals Advisory Committee:

Dr. Spellman reported that Dr. John Menchaca will chair a work group of pediatric endocrinologists November 20 to review and comment on a draft pediatric weight control algorithm and the application of current algorithms to a pediatric clientele. A diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA) protocol or clinical pathway will be added to the insulin algorithm. Attention will be given to developing a macrovascular algorithm now that more evidence is published.

The committee recommends submitting articles addressing the TDC algorithms to national journals as the most appropriate strategy to address preparation of medical students and to trigger editorial commentaries in Texas professional journals.

Dr. Spellman highlighted an educational project he has undertaken through the University of North Texas in which a 6-hour continuing medical education program is delivered in a 3 CD package using interviews with prominent US diabetes specialists. The package includes patient education content. The project is funded by Aventis and includes nationwide distribution of 1000 copies by their representatives. He remarked that public (patient, family and friends) education needs to be appealing and user-friendly.

Affiliated Group: Diabetes Coalition of Texas and Legislative Update

Lenore Katz, Chair recommended adoption of all legislative positions and priorities reviewed and adopted by the Coalition January 26, including but not limited to:

- 1) A school bill to support safety, self-management and health of students with diabetes;
- 2) The recommendation of the Pediatric Diabetes advisory committee (2002) to make pediatric diabetes reportable to the Department of State Health Services;
- 3) Support for stem cell research;
- 4) Secure diabetes self-management training for enrollees in Medicaid and state CHIP insurance;
- 5) Protect insurance coverage for diabetes supplies, equipment and education;
- 6) Require continuing education in diabetes for primary health care providers; and
- 7) Support restoration of funds for podiatry and eyeglasses for adults with diabetes in Medicaid and for the Kidney health care program to cover eligible clients.

ON A MOTION MADE BY JEFF ROSS, AND SECONDED BY JUDY HALEY THAT THE DIABETES COALITION OF TEXAS LEGISLATIVE POSITIONS BE ADOPTED.

Discussion ensued on the topic of requiring diabetes-specific continuing education with Greg Herzog, Texas Medical Association. Numerous potential partnerships to promote continuing education without requiring a specific number of hours across the discipline of medicine were offered.

ON A MOTION BY JUDY HALEY AND SECONDED BY RICK HAYLEY TO AMEND THE MOTION TO REPLACE "REQUIRE CONTINUING EDUCATION" TO A POSITION "RECOMMENDING PRIMARY CARE PRACTITIONERS WITH PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY OBTAIN CONTINUING EDUCATION IN DIABETES." THE STATEMENT CONTINUES THAT THE TEXAS DIABETES COUNCIL AND TEXAS MEDICAL ASSOCIATION WILL WORK WITH CERTIFICATION BOARDS AND OTHERS TO ASSURE THAT THEY INCLUDE CURRENT DIABETES CONTENT IN THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS. MOTION CARRIED TO AMEND THE MOTION. AMENDED MOTION CARRIED.

Council members Dr. Victor Gonzalez, Dr. Jeff Ross, Mr. Rick Hayley and Dr. Philip Huang were appointed to sub-committee to work with Texas Medical Association on collaborative projects promoting quality content and diabetes-specific continuing education of primary care physicians. Dr. Huang reported that the most recent Family Practice certification examination includes extensive content on diabetes.

Member Reports

Mr. Hayley reported that the American Diabetes Association education video for law enforcement officers is

due to be released at the ADA state advocacy meeting. It was suggested that distribution include all law enforcement agencies, not just Department of Public Safety officers.

Dr. Gonzalez was contacted by Nicole Johnson on behalf of Body Media inviting the Council to participate in a privately funded research project involving wireless communications to help physicians monitor children with diabetes. Dr. Gonzalez will contact Ms. Johnson with questions raised by Council and invite her to speak with the group in January.

Mr. Hayley also reported that the South Texas Diabetes Consortium conference (of which the Council was a financial sponsor) was of excellent quality.

Program Reports:

As written.

Donna Jones presented a portfolio of the media products for FY 2004. The radio messages are distributed through the 200 stations in the Lone Star Radio Network. TDC was represented at Texas Medical Assn and Texas Academy of Family Physicians conferences. The program will assist a new diabetes staff development through the Texas School Nurses Organization in November using a curriculum previously approved by the Council. She highlighted the messages recorded by the Commissioner of Agriculture for her rural radio network. Ms. Jones is invited to present the project with the Agriculture Commission at the annual National Diabetes Education Program partners meeting.

Carol Filer summarized the Assessment of the Texas Diabetes Public Health System and Essential Public Health Services. Information was posted for public comment on the website. Staff recommended two priorities for the required performance improvement plan which are consistent with the Council's state plan. They are:

- 1) to link people with needed services by focusing on building content in the Texas Information and Referral Network's new 211 call system; and
- 2) to assure a competent health care workforce, by two strategies to increase physician awareness and use of the TDC standards of care and to improve basic diabetes education for community health workers/promotores de salud.

Agency Reports:

Texas Department of State Health Services: Updated county-level synthetic estimates of diabetes prevalence among adults are being prepared by the agency's Center for Health Statistics. Dr. Huang announced that Dr. Ozias has a new role, General Health Promotion Group Manager, in the new Department of State Health Services but that she will continue current duties with the Diabetes Program/Council.

Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services: none

Texas Department of Human Services: None

Texas Education Agency: None

Additional Member Reports

Dr. Gonzalez led discussion on the HEDIS health plan performance summary reports and voiced concern about Texas performance being lower than the US Quality Compass. Council will correspond with medical directors of health maintenance organizations on the relatively poor performance and ask for their input and help to improve Texas' performance.

Mrs. Katz indicated that US Senator Hutchinson mentions Texas Diabetes Council website in her letters. She also reported that members of the Council and the Coalition will arrive earlier in January to interact with legislators on the 26th so the Coalition meeting will begin later at 4 pm.

Dr. Harkless announced the Diabetic Foot Conference December 2-5 in San Antonio will feature Infections including antibiotic-resistant infections.

The Council discussed holding their regular meetings outside of Austin once in 2005 and in 2006. They intend to hold the October 26-27, 2005 meetings in San Antonio and would like to meet in Tyler in 2006.

Dr. Ross reported working on obesity and diabetes prevention with Parent-Teacher Organizations in three Houston area elementary schools/after-school activity programs.

Public Comment: None.

Adjournment

ON A MOTION BY VICTOR GONZALEZ, AND SECONDED BY MARGARET PACILLAS, THE COUNCIL VOTED TO ADJOURN AT 5:35 pm.