

MedicareDiabetes Screening Project

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In This Issue:

- Columbus, GA Update
 - New Hampshire Update
 - CMS Chooses the MDSP!
 - HHS Hispanic Elder Pilots
 - Upcoming Conferences
 - F.Y.I. Article Links
-

What's Happening in Columbus, GA?

The Medicare Diabetes Screening Project pilot in Columbus has hit the ground running! This effort is led by Maurice Madden, our on-site coordinator in Columbus, Andrea Giammona and Brooke Jones with the Columbus Research Foundation, and the Center for Health Transformation. Here's a quick look at a few future events:

- The Chattahoochee Area Agency on Aging will be exhibiting over two months for the Medicare Diabetes Screening Project at the Peachtree Mall in Columbus, and will distribute information on diabetes screening in Medicare.
- Educational workshops will be conducted with the Columbus chapters of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and other local civic and community groups to promote diabetes screening.
- A Fellowship Luncheon will be held on September 13 to urge ministers and religious leaders in Columbus to incorporate the importance of diabetes screening into their spiritual messages on the second Sunday in November, which is Diabetes Month.
- A dinner event is scheduled for September 27 to inform physicians about the Medicare diabetes screening initiative in Columbus, and to explain the benefit and appropriate coding that should be used for reimbursement.

Please contact [Maurice Madden](#) if you would like to get your organization involved in Columbus, Georgia.

MDSP Pilot Project in New Hampshire!

The New Hampshire initiative is being led by [Tom Maher](#) with the Healthcare Leadership Council. Please contact [Tom](#) if you would like to learn how to get involved in New Hampshire!

- The Medicare Diabetes Screening Project pilot in New Hampshire has built a coalition of 10 partner organizations, who are in the process of developing localized materials for seniors and health care providers.
- A schedule of events for seniors and providers is in the works and will begin in September!
- Tom Maher for the MDSP was featured in an hour-long New Hampshire Public Radio program hosted by Laura Knoy, also featuring Dr. Charlotte Yeh, Regional Director for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS), District I (Boston, MA) and Dr. Rick Pollack, President of the NH Academy of Family Physicians. The program was entitled: *Health Literacy, Prevention and Medicare*. Click [here](#) to listen!

MDSP is the CMS Prevention Challenge for the State of Georgia!

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) regional office in Atlanta, GA has chosen the Medicare Diabetes Screening Project in Columbus to be the Prevention Challenge for the State of Georgia. The CMS central office asked each regional office to designate a key partner in each state to focus on prevention and healthy living after the *A HealthierUS Starts Here Prevention Tour* has left town— and MDSP is the partner for Georgia!

Free Diabetes Resource for Older Adults

The National Diabetes Education Program's newly revised tip sheet, *It's Not Too Late to Prevent Diabetes. Take Your First Step Today.*, gives older adults ideas for new ways to get moving, have fun, and prevent or delay type 2 diabetes. The tip sheet has been updated to include additional physical activity and nutrition tips, as well a new section called "Get Your Friends and Family Involved" that includes family-oriented action steps. To download or order this **free** tip sheet, and for more information about NDEP's many diabetes prevention and control materials, visit <http://www.ndep.nih.gov> or call 1-800-438-5383.

did you know?

**fewer than one in ten
Medicare beneficiaries
are getting all of the recommended screenings
and immunizations**

F.Y.I. Article Links:

[Medicare recipients are not getting recommended screenings](#)

[Untapped Medicare benefits](#)

About Us:

There are 35 million seniors in Medicare who are 65 years or older. As many as 17 million of them have undiagnosed diabetes or pre-diabetes. Since the passage of the Medicare Modernization Act of 2003, Medicare now covers free screening tests for diabetes and pre-diabetes for at-risk seniors. However, initial data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) suggests that these benefits have been under-utilized.

That's why government, professional and private sector organizations, co-chaired by the American Diabetes Association and Novo Nordisk Inc., are joining forces to create awareness of the screening benefits for diabetes and pre-diabetes available under Medicare.

Questions or Comments? Email Sarah Nordstrom at shno@novonordisk.com, or call 202-626-4526
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HHS Hispanic Elder Pilot Initiatives to Start in Eight US Communities

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), in cooperation with the Administration on Aging (AOA), the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), announced that eight US communities will be targeted to improve the health of Hispanic elders. The communities include: Chicago, IL; Houston, TX; Los Angeles, CA; McAllen, TX; Miami, FL; New York, NY; San Antonio, TX; and San Diego, CA. These pilot project locations were selected to take part of an initiative launched by HHS Secretary Mike Leavitt, entitled "Improving Hispanic Elders' Health: Community Partnerships for Evidence Based Solutions." More information can be found at [this website](#).

MDSP Will Be Attending the Following Upcoming Conferences!

- **2007 Disease Management Leadership Forum & DMAA –NAM Integrated Care Summit, September 16-19, Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, NV.**
- ***Reaching New Heights in Successful Community Living: 23rd National Home & Community Based Services Conference, Convened by the National Association of State Units on Aging and Long Term Care Services Department, September 30– October 3, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Look for MDSP in the exhibit hall!***

A National Drive to
Find the Undiagnosed

MedicareDiabetes
Screening Project