

**A National Drive to
Find the Undiagnosed**

MedicareDiabetes Screening Project

Volume 2, Issue 1, January 2009. Sarah E. Nordstrom, Editor

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Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle Addresses the MDSP Georgia Summit in Columbus on November 6, 2008

MDSP Georgia Summit a Success!

The Medicare Diabetes Screening Project: Georgia Summit 2008, was held on November 6 in Columbus, GA. The Summit was intended to serve as a launch pad for cities across the state of Georgia to develop MDSP initiatives to effectively promote the free Medicare diabetes screening benefit to seniors, providers, and other partners in 2009. Nearly 100 stakeholders from across the state were in attendance.

Dr. William Rowley, Senior Futurist and COO at the Institute for Alternative Futures, gave a very moving keynote address - which highlighted the looming crisis of diabetes in Georgia, especially among those of African-American or Hispanic descent.

MDSP's new video: *Changing Diabetes for Seniors - One Community at a Time: The Columbus Georgia Experience* was premiered to the audience, and received great reviews! You can download and view the short video here:

www.screenfordiabetes.org/video.

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MDSP Video Premiere

The MDSP Video: *Changing Diabetes for Seniors: One Community at a Time* is now available on the MDSP website www.screenfordiabetes.org/video.

Richard Bergenstal, MD and Hubert Humphrey III Named Co- Chairs of the MDSP in Minnesota

The Minnesota arm of the Medicare Diabetes Screening Project is pleased to announce its new co-chairs, Hubert H. (Skip) Humphrey III, and Rich M. Bergenstal, MD.

Mr. Humphrey is senior vice president of Tunheim Partners and a senior fellow in the School of Public Health, University of Minnesota. Previously, he has been a public affairs consultant, a senior fellow at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, and Minnesota Attorney General. Among his many honors, Mr. Humphrey has received the American Diabetes Association's Health award for his work on health issues in Minnesota.

Dr. Bergenstal is the Executive Director of the International Diabetes Center (IDC) at Park Nicollet and Adjunct Professor of Medicine at the University of Minnesota. He has received the Outstanding Physician Clinician in Diabetes Award from the American Diabetes Association (ADA), and is currently President-Elect of the ADA.

MDSP is extremely honored to have these tireless advocates for seniors and people living with diabetes as the co-chairs of its efforts in the state of Minnesota.



Renee Adamson (Eldercare Pharmacy), Mike Gaymon (Columbus Chamber of Commerce), and Jeff Meyer (Columbus Dept. of Fire and Emergency Services) speak to participants during the panel discussion.

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In the afternoon, the participants were split into six breakout groups, and were each required to develop some ideas and take-away points to initiate MDSP activities in their cities. Each group elected a spokesperson who reported those ideas back to the full group. Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle gave the closing speech, charging participants to make Medicare diabetes screening for seniors a priority in their city. The MDSP is expecting to achieve great success in Georgia in 2009!

did you know?

Diabetes cost the United States \$218 Billion in 2007

Source: National Diabetes Economic Barometer by the Lewin Group (11/08)

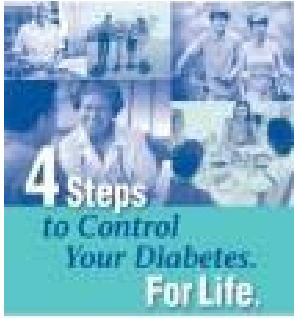
About Us:

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, the Healthcare Leadership Council, and Novo Nordisk Inc., have joined forces to create awareness of the screening benefits for diabetes and pre-diabetes available under Medicare and to encourage seniors to ask their medical providers about diabetes screening.

To be removed from this list please contact: shno@novonordisk.com

Free Diabetes Resource Outlines Self-Care Principles



The National Diabetes Education Program’s patient education booklet *4 Steps to Control Your Diabetes. For Life.* is a widely-used resource for people newly diagnosed with diabetes, as well as those living with diabetes for years. Presented in an easy-to-read format, the four steps help

people with diabetes understand, monitor, and manage their diabetes, and empower people with diabetes to be active partners in their own care.

This resource is available in English, Spanish, and 14 Asian and Pacific Islander languages. NDEP has added six new languages – Gujarati, Hindi, Hmong, Indonesian, Japanese, and Laotian – to the existing Cambodian, Chinese, Korean, Samoan, Thai, Tongan, Filipino (Tagalog), and Vietnamese *4 Steps*.

To order free copies and learn more about managing diabetes, visit the NDEP website, www.YourDiabetesInfo.org, or call 1-888-693-NDEP (6337); TTY: 1-866-569-1162.

F.Y.I Article Link

“Diabetes may cause first fall in life expectancy for 200 years”

