

DIABETES COMMITTEE

Minutes

September 16, 2020

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Members Present

Mary Pat Bertacchi
Rita Kalyani, MD
Vivienne Rose, MD (co-chair)
Teresa Titus-Howard
Pamela Xenakis (co-chair)

Members Not Present

Donna Gugel
Jessica Kiel
Julie Maneen

Maryland Department of Health Staff Present

Sadie Peters, MD
Kristi Pier
Sue Vaeth
Pam Williams

1. Review Agenda Items

The Diabetes Committee met via webinar on 9/16/2020; the meeting was called to order by Pamela Xenakis at 5:05 p.m. The co-chair reviewed the meeting agenda items. There were no changes requested.

2. Roll Call/Introductions

A quorum of the Diabetes Committee was present.

3. Approve July 15, 2020 meeting minutes

Teresa Titus-Howard made a motion to approve the July 15, 2020 committee meeting minutes and Mary Pat Bertacchi seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

4. Discussion of follow-up items from the July meeting

Sue provided an overview of the HALT Diabetes online program. Program providers are able to deliver the National Diabetes Prevention Program (National DPP) virtually through this platform. The National DPP is a year-long program. At this time, there have been 23 providers who have applied for the platform and have been trained, some who have begun or scheduled classes. Most will offer the online program statewide. Some providers are seeking reimbursement through Medicare and Medicaid while others offer it at no cost. CDC is allowing an umbrella arrangement to assist providers to work together to develop infrastructure to offer the program to Medicare beneficiaries. Maryland Department of Health (MDH) Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Control has a contract with certain local health departments to work with physician groups for referrals. There was a suggestion to involve community health workers (CHWs). At this time, MDH is working on the curriculum for CHWs and looking at the role of CHW's as navigators. MDH is working with the Office of Population Health Improvement on this project.

There was discussion about the National DPP in Carroll County and the struggles they and other program providers experience in obtaining referrals, recruiting, and retention for the program. A question was asked if MDH can reach out to more physician organizations like American College of Physicians, Maryland Academy of Family Physicians, American Pediatric Associations, and Nurse Practitioner Associations. The American College of

Physicians Chapter has an annual meeting in January. This may be an opportunity to add Diabetes to the agenda. Dr. Peters states there is a push to do more with regional partnerships. There will be more money with hospitals leading the effort. Further discussion ensued about incentives for participation in the program. Kristi will share information learned about incentives from the Medicaid Demonstration Project. The Committee noted other types of providers could be sources of referrals, for example, having dieticians work with their primary care providers.

Recorded webinars for clinicians, community health workers and people with diabetes, scheduled through September and will be available for later viewing.

5. COVID-19 messaging

The Committee discussed COVID-19 related messaging to encourage people to go to the doctor to improve their diabetes, and for people who don't have sufficient money to get what is needed to manage their diabetes, such as how to access insulin and SNAP.

6. Standing Interim Meetings

A discussion was made to have monthly standing interim meetings from 4 to 5 pm on Wednesday, a month prior to the regularly scheduled Council and Committee meetings.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Next meeting: October 14, 2020