

2016 Certification Examination for Diabetes Educators

Appendix III

Examination Content Outline

I. Assessment of Diabetes and Prediabetes (60)

- A. Assess Learning/Self-Care Behaviors (20)
 - 1. Goals and learning needs
 - 2. Learning readiness (attitudes, developmental level, perceived learning needs, etc.)
 - 3. Learning style (audio, visual, observational, psychomotor, etc.)
 - Barriers to learning (concrete vs. abstract thinking, literacy and numeracy levels, language, cultural values, religious beliefs, health beliefs, psycho-social and economic issues, family dynamics, etc.)
 - 5. Physical capabilities/limitations (visual acuity, hearing, functional ability, etc.)
 - 6. Readiness to change behavior (confidence in ability to change, value of change, etc.)
- B. Assess Medical/Health/Psychosocial and Economic Status (20)
 - 1. Diabetes-specific health history (duration, symptoms, complications, adherence to standards of care, treatment, etc.)
 - 2. General health history (family history, allergies, medical history, nutrition history, etc.)
 - Previous and current medication regimen (medication dosage, prescription and nonprescription drugs, herbals, alternative remedies, adverse reactions, etc.)
 - 4. Treatment fears and myths (hypoglycemia, hyperglycemia, needles, weight gain, etc.)
 - 5. Family/Caregiver dynamics and social supports
 - 6. Substance use (alcohol, tobacco, caffeine, etc.)
 - 7. Developmental transitions and mental health status (age, life stages, coping ability, adjustment to diagnosis, etc.)
 - 8. Specific barriers to diabetes self-care regimen (cognitive ability, language, cultural, spiritual, psychosocial, physical, economic, etc.)
 - Diabetes-specific physical assessment (injection and blood glucose monitoring sites, blood pressure, weight, height, body mass index, lower extremities, acanthosis nigricans, etc.)
 - 10. Laboratory and patient collected data trends (blood glucose, A1C, lipid profile, renal/liver function, etc.)
- C. Assess Current Knowledge and Self-Management Skills (20)
 - 1. Diabetes (e.g., pathophysiology)
 - 2. Eating patterns (food and beverage preferences, portion sizes, timing of meals and snacks, eating environment, disordered eating, etc.)
 - 3. Exercise/Physical activity history and/or level
 - 4. Monitoring techniques and equipment (blood glucose, ketones, blood pressure, weight, foot examination, etc.)
 - 5. Record keeping activities (blood glucose, food, activity, etc.)
 - Medication use (oral and injectable medications, administration technique, delivery systems, timing and dosage, adherence, etc.)
 - 7. Use of health care resources (health care professionals, insurance, etc.)

II. Interventions for Diabetes and Prediabetes (89)

 Collaborate with Patient/Family/Caregiver/Healthcare Team to Develop: (16)

- Individualized diabetes education plan based on assessment (learning objectives, sequence of information, selection of content, communication, etc.)
- 2. Instructional methods (discussion, demonstration, role playing, simulation, technology-based platforms, etc.)
- 3. Behavioral goals (S.M.A.R.T. goals, AADE-7, etc.)
- B. Teach/Counsel Regarding Principles of Care (50)
 - 1. General topics
 - a) Classifications and diagnosis (ADA Clinical Practice Recommendations, AACE, etc.)
 - b) Modifiable risk factors (lifestyle behaviors, etc.)
 - c) Pathophysiology (auto-immunity, MODY, insulin resistance, fuel metabolism, secondary diabetes, etc.)
 - d) Effects and interactions of physical activity, food, medication, and stress
 - e) Treatment options (choices, availability, cost, risk/benefit, etc.)
 - f) Goals of treatment (blood glucose, A1C, blood pressure, lipids, quality of life, prevention of complications, etc.)
 - g) Purpose of laboratory tests (A1C, lipids, kidney and liver function tests, etc.)
 - h) Evidence-based diabetes research
 - 2. Living with diabetes and prediabetes
 - a) Psychosocial adaptation (new diagnosis, complications, coping skills, etc.)
 - b) Psychosocial problems (depression, eating disorders, divorce, etc.)
 - c) Role/Responsibilities of care (patient, family members, team, shared responsibility, etc.)
 - d) Decision making/Behavior change skills
 - e) Safety (sharps disposal, medical ID, driving, etc.)
 - f) Hygiene (dental/skin/feet, etc.)
 - g) Social/Financial issues (employment, insurance, disability,
 - discrimination, etc.) 3. Metabolic monitoring
 - a) Glucose (testing sites, meter selection, sensor, etc.)
 - b) A1C
 - c) Blood pressure
 - d) Regimen and record keeping (blood glucose logs, food records, etc.)
 - e) Lipids/Cholesterol
 - f) Liver/Renal monitoring (liver function studies, microalbuminuria, serum creatinine, etc.)
 - g) Ketones
 - 4. Nutrition principles and guidelines
 - a) ADA and Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics nutrition recommendations (meal planning, macro/micronutrients, etc.)
 - b) Carbohydrates (food source, sugar substitutes, fiber, carbohydrate counting, etc.)
 - c) Fats (total, saturated, monounsaturated, etc.)
 - d) Protein (renal disease, wound care, etc.)
 - e) Food and medication integration (medication timing, meal timing, etc.)
 - Food label interpretation (nutrition facts, ingredients, health claims, etc.)



2016 Certification Examination for Diabetes Educators

- g) Alcohol (amount, precautions)
- h) Weight management (adult and childhood obesity, failure to thrive, etc.)
- i) Special considerations (food allergies, gastroparesis, celiac disease, bariatric surgery, etc.)
- 5. Physical activity
 - a) ADA and American College of Sports Medicine recommendations
 - b) Benefits, barriers, and precautions (e.g., post exercise delayed onset hypoglycemia)
 - c) Exercise/Activity plan (aerobic, resistance training, etc.)
 - d) Adjustment of monitoring, food, and/or medication
- 6. Pharmacologic management
 - ADA/European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD), AACE guidelines
 - b) Medications (insulin, oral and injectable medications, administration, side effects, etc.)
 - c) Delivery systems (pump therapy, devices, etc.)
 - d) Medication adjustment
 - e) Interactions (drug-drug, drug-food, etc.)
 - f) Non-prescription preparations
- 7. Acute complications: causes, prevention and treatment
 - a) Hypoglycemia
 - b) Hyperglycemia
 - c) Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA)
 - d) Hyperosmolar hyperglycemic state (HHS)
- 8. Chronic complications and comorbidities: causes, prevention and treatment
 - a) ADA Clinical Practice screening recommendations
 - b) Eye disease (retinopathy, cataracts, glaucoma, etc.)
 - c) Sexual dysfunction
 - d) Neuropathy (autonomic, peripheral, etc.)
 - e) Nephropathy
 - f) Vascular disease (cerebral, cardiovascular, peripheral, etc.)
 - g) Lower extremity problems (foot ulcers, Charcot foot, etc.)
 - h) Dermatological (wounds, yeast infection, ulcers, etc.)
 - i) Dental and gum disease
 - j) Co-morbidities (hypertension, depression, cognitive dysfunction, thyroid disease, celiac disease, obesity, sleep apnea, polycystic ovarian syndrome, etc.)
- 9. Other management issues
 - a) Honeymoon period, dawn phenomenon, Somogyi effect
 - b) Hypoglycemia unawareness
 - c) Sick days
 - d) Physical capabilities/Limitations (visual acuity, hearing, functional ability, etc.)
 - e) Surgery and special procedures
 - f) Travel and disaster preparedness
 - g) Transition populations (pediatric, geriatric, care settings, etc.)
 - h) Pre-conception planning, pregnancy, post-partum, and gestational diabetes
 - i) Changes in usual schedules (shift, religious, cultural, etc.)
 - j) Assistive and adaptive devices (talking meter, magnifier, etc.)
 - k) Substance use (tobacco, marijuana, illicit drugs, etc.)
 - I) Pump/Device malfunctions

- m) Disparities (economic, access, sex, ethnicity, geographic, mental capabilities, etc.)
- C. Evaluate, Revise and Document (17)
 - 1. Weight, blood glucose, food intake, medication regimen, physical activity plan
 - 2. Patient self-reports and/or device downloaded reports
 - 3. Evaluate effectiveness of teaching in the following:
 - a) Achievement of objectives
 - b) Progress towards behavioral goals
 - c) Self-management skills
 - d) Psychosocial adaptation
 - 4. Ongoing plans for achieving and evaluating objectives and behavioral goals
- D. Referral and Follow-Up (6)
 - Issues requiring referral to other (health care) professionals

 Additional diabetes education
 - b) Medical nutrition therapy
 - c) Exercise prescription
 - d) Mental health
 - e) Medical care (foot care, dilated eye exam, pre-conception counseling, etc.)
 - f) Financial and social services
 - g) Risk reduction (smoking cessation, obesity, preventative services, etc.)
 - h) Medication consult
 - i) Discharge planning, home care, community resources (visual, hearing, language, etc.)
 - 2. Communication between diabetes educator and provider
 - Diabetes Self-Management Support (DSMS) (pharmaceutical industry, community resources, and/or health plan coaches/ case managers, etc.)

III. Disease Management (26)

- A. Education and Program Standards (8)
 - 1. Translate National Standards for Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support (NSDSMES)
 - a) Perform needs assessment (target population, etc.)
 - b) Develop curriculum (identify program goals, content outline, lesson plan, teaching materials, etc.)
 - c) Choose teaching methods and materials for target populations
 - d) Evaluate program outcomes (number of people served, provider satisfaction, patient satisfaction, effectiveness of diabetes education materials, etc.)
 - Assess patient outcomes (behavior changes, A1C, lipids, weight, quality of life, ER visits, hospitalizations, work absences, etc.)
 - f) Perform continuous quality improvement activities
 - g) Maintain patient information/demographic database
- B. Clinical Practice (16)
 - 1. Apply inpatient standards (AACE, ADA, Endocrine Society, etc.)
 - 2. Apply outpatient standards (AACE, ADA, Endocrine Society, etc.)
 - 3. Target high-risk populations for intervention
 - 4. Identify health care professionals in need of education
- C. Engage in Diabetes Advocacy (community awareness, health fairs, work place, legislative efforts, media, etc.) (2)