

# 2017 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)
  - 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.)
  - 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.)
  - Specific barriers to diabetes self-care regimen (cognitive ability, language, cultural, spiritual, psychosocial, physical, economic, etc.)
  - 9. Diabetes-specific physical assessment (injection and blood glucose monitoring sites, blood pressure, weight, height, body mass index, lower extremities, acanthosis nigricans, etc.)
  - 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)
  - 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.)
  - 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)

 A. 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
    - 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
    - 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.)
    - Psychosocial problems (depression, eating disorders, divorce, etc.)
    - 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.)
    - f) Food label interpretation (nutrition facts, ingredients, health claims, etc.)



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- g) Alcohol (amount, precautions)
- h) Weight management (adult and childhood obesity, failure to thrive, etc.)
- 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
  - a) 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)
- 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
  - Changes in usual schedules (shift, religious, cultural, etc.)
  - Assistive and adaptive devices (talking meter, magnifier, etc.)
  - k) Substance use (tobacco, marijuana, illicit drugs, etc.)
  - Pump/Device malfunctions

- m) Disparities (economic, access, sex, ethnicity, geographic, mental capabilities, etc.)
- C. Evaluate, Revise and Document (17)
  - 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)
  - 1. Issues requiring referral to other (health care) professionals
    - a) 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
    - 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
    - Evaluate program outcomes (number of people served, provider satisfaction, patient satisfaction, effectiveness of diabetes education materials, etc.)
    - e) 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)
  - Apply inpatient standards (AACE, ADA, Endocrine Society, etc.)
  - Apply outpatient standards (AACE, ADA, Endocrine Society, etc.)
  - 3. Target high-risk populations for intervention
  - 4. Identify health care professionals in need of education
- Engage in Diabetes Advocacy (community awareness, health fairs, work place, legislative efforts, media, etc.) (2)