

Introducing a new e-learning resource exploring the nine care processes recommended for good diabetes management in primary care

Diabetes is a challenging condition to manage. The goal is to reduce the risk of developing the long-term complications associated with poor diabetes control and to improve the quality of life for those living with the condition. This management is multifactorial and involves more than just glycaemic management.

In order to support this multifactorial approach, NICE has released guidance recommending that each person with diabetes undergoes nine recommended care processes annually. These care processes are:


- HbA_{1c} measurement.
- Blood pressure measurement.
- Cholesterol measurement.
- Retinal screening.
- Foot checks.
- Urinary albumin testing.
- Serum creatinine testing.
- Weight check.
- Smoking status check.

In order to improve the knowledge and skills of healthcare professionals, the Primary Care Diabetes Society (PCDS) has developed a series of eight modules providing a background and practical element to each of these care processes (albumin and creatinine are reviewed in a single Renal module). Each module discusses the correct technique for any

examination process and provides further details surrounding the purpose and reason for the tests or examinations.

For each module there is a multiple-choice assessment and the opportunity to complete a self-reflective learning log. This module, the assessment and the learning log can then be used by the individual to demonstrate and support their learning in practice.

The PCDS values the role of non-qualified staff in the primary care setting, who often undertake these processes and may be the first point of contact for our patients. It is believed that by increasing the knowledge and skills of all personnel, the conversations with our patients can be more meaningful and informative. ■




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