



Home Care Program Adequacy of Diabetes Care Project

The WRHA Home Care Program has received funding from the Lawson Foundation (www.lawson.ca) to undertake a two year project addressing adequacy of diabetes care for Home Care clients who receive assistance from Nursing services to manage their diabetes.

Adequacy of diabetes care is defined by an Index of care based on Canadian Diabetes Association 2008 Practice Guidelines. Adequacy entails long term Home Care clients with diabetes receiving at least 6 of the following:

- 1) HbA1c checked in past 12 months
- 2) lipids checked in past year
- 3) dilated eye exam in past year
- 4) feet checked by health care provider at least once in past 12 months
- 5) blood pressure checked in past year
- 6) screening for microalbuminuria in last 12 months
- 7) formal diabetes education with at least 2 components: a) self-management and b) nutrition

A Nurse 3 Certified Diabetes Educator (Home Care Diabetes Specialist) is in place with the project team to support the following activities over two years from January 2010 to December 2012:

- Develop and educate a Home Care Diabetes Best Practice Team
- Develop a care protocol for adequacy of care components
- Set up processes for team to do annual risk factor and complication assessments with Home Care clients with diabetes
- Educate all Home Care nurses at a basic level for diabetes care
- Provide teaching tools and resources for all Home Care staff to support diabetes management
- Work with primary care partners to develop shared communication tools and processes to support adequacy of care protocols

The project team will be recruiting approximately 200 Home Care clients to follow over the two years to monitor impact on client knowledge and diabetes-related clinical indicators as Home Care changes its approach to caring for clients with diabetes.

Project Leads:

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Leadership Support: Elliette Allec, Director, Home Care

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