Final Year Medical Student Diabetes Questionnaire

MS4 Survey

Researchers at SUNY Upstate Medical University are conducting a survey to understand how well 4th year medical students are prepared to evaluate and manage diabetes mellitus, one of the most common chronic illnesses in adults. Our goal is to identify gaps in confidence and knowledge concerning the management of diabetes so that appropriate modifications in the curriculum can be proposed.

We are asking all 4th year medical students to complete this survey. This should take you approximately 5 minutes to complete. Your responses will be kept confidential and you will never be identified. Completion of this survey is completely voluntary.

Age in Years: ___________________________

What is your gender?  
☐ Male  
☐ Female  
☐ Non-Binary/Other  
☐ Prefer not to answer

What is your race? Check all that apply.  
☐ Caucasian  
☐ Black or African American  
☐ Asian  
☐ American Indian or Alaska Native  
☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander  
☐ Other  
☐ Prefer not to answer

What ethnicity?  
☐ I am of Latin/Hispanic origin  
☐ I am not of Latin/Hispanic origin  
☐ Prefer not to answer

What is your first choice specialty for residency? If your specialty requires a transitional or preliminary year, please list both the specialty and your final specialty of choice.

Do you or did you:

☐ Have diabetes of any type?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

☐ Have any close friends or relatives with diabetes of any type?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

☐ Ever take an elective course in endocrinology or diabetes?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

☐ Participate in the endocrinology clinic?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

If you have any close friends or relatives with diabetes of any type, do you help care for them?  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

To help us identify knowledge gaps, please answer these questions:

Which of the following most supports the diagnosis of diabetes mellitus?

☐ 50 years or older  
☐ BMI greater than 30  
☐ Family history of diabetes  
☐ Microvascular complications

Gluconeogenesis:  
☐ Glutamate  
☐ Pyruvate  
☐ Ketone bodies  
☐ None

Commercially available insulin pumps:  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

The definition of hyperglycemia is a blood glucose level above:  
☐ 60 mg/dL  
☐ 70 mg/dL  
☐ 100 mg/dL

The target blood glucose range for healthy adults with diabetes before a meal is:  
☐ 80-120 mg/dL  
☐ 100-140 mg/dL  
☐ 80-180 mg/dL

In order to avoid diabetic ketonuria, when a person with type 3 diabetes is MPO:  
☐ Discontinue all insulin  
☐ Continue basal insulin  
☐ Stop only acting insulin

When using multiple daily insulin injections, replacing insulin is best used:  
☐ To meet basal insulin requirements  
☐ To meet postprandial requirements  
☐ To meet insulin requirements for different times of day

Diabetic patients can develop:  
☐ Type 1 diabetes only  
☐ Type 2 diabetes only  
☐ Both types 1 and 2 diabetes

A person with diabetic nephropathy is most likely to have:  
☐ Proteinuria  
☐ Glycosuria  
☐ Hyperglycemia

Glycated hemoglobin A1c is particularly helpful in adults with type 2 diabetes with:  
☐ Abnormal glucose tolerance  
☐ Acute hyperglycemia  
☐ Identifying and promoting disease prevention

What do you believe is one of the biggest challenges in the treatment of diabetes?  
☐ Accurate insulin dosing  
☐ Patient education  
☐ Economic constraints

If you wish to describe other courses or learning experiences that taught you about diabetes, please do so in the space provided: ___________________________

Please indicate your confidence levels for the following:

☐ I am very confident  
☐ Somewhat confident  
☐ Neutral  
☐ Very confident

How confident are you in diagnosing an adult with diabetes?  
☐ Very confident  
☐ Somewhat confident  
☐ Neutral  
☐ Not very confident

How confident are you in prescribing/metabolism medications to a patient with type 1 diabetes?  
☐ Very confident  
☐ Somewhat confident  
☐ Neutral  
☐ Not very confident

How confident are you in prescribing/metabolism medications to a patient with type 2 diabetes?  
☐ Very confident  
☐ Somewhat confident  
☐ Neutral  
☐ Not very confident

How confident are you in managing diabetes long-term?  
☐ Very confident  
☐ Somewhat confident  
☐ Neutral  
☐ Not very confident

How confident are you in diagnosing and treating diabetic nephropathy?  
☐ Very confident  
☐ Somewhat confident  
☐ Neutral  
☐ Not very confident

How confident are you in setting individual goals for people with diabetes regarding glycemic control?  
☐ Very confident  
☐ Somewhat confident  
☐ Neutral  
☐ Not very confident

If you are interested in learning more about diabetes or how to improve diabetes care, please list a resource or program that you think would be helpful: ___________________________

A 59-year-old woman was told she has type 2 diabetes. She is asymptomatic and has not been previously diagnosed. She is 5 feet 4 inches tall and weighs 185 pounds. She reports her average activity level is moderate. She has a family history of diabetes.

You are consulted to evaluate the patient as described by her primary care physician.

What is your diagnosis?  
☐ Type 1 diabetes  
☐ Type 2 diabetes  
☐ Gestational diabetes

What is the most appropriate course of action?  
☐ Add sulfonylurea  
☐ Add metformin  
☐ Add insulin

After 6 months, the patient is still asymptomatic and has not required any insulin. She continues to follow her dietary instructions and is seen again by her primary care physician.

What is the most appropriate course of action?  
☐ Add insulin glargine to her current regimen  
☐ Add insulin aspart to her current regimen  
☐ Discontinue all medications

A 40-year-old woman was told she has type 1 diabetes. She is asymptomatic and has not been previously diagnosed. She is 5 feet 4 inches tall and weighs 130 pounds. She reports her average activity level is moderate. She has a family history of diabetes.

You are consulted to evaluate the patient as described by her primary care physician.

What is your diagnosis?  
☐ Type 1 diabetes  
☐ Type 2 diabetes  
☐ Gestational diabetes

What is the most appropriate course of action?  
☐ Add sulfonylurea  
☐ Add metformin  
☐ Add insulin