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APhA, APhA Foundation and the American Diabetes Association Collaborate to Promote Advanced Diabetes Care Initiatives

WASHINGTON, DC – The [American Pharmacists Association](#) (APhA), the [APhA Foundation](#) and the [American Diabetes Association](#) today announced a new collaboration to increase diabetes care outreach from pharmacists to patients. This collaboration will create educational resources and opportunities for pharmacists, other health care professionals, caregivers and patients living with diabetes to better understand diabetes as a condition and how pharmacists, in coordination with physicians, can help patients manage the condition and their medications.

According to a 2011 report from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), almost 25.8 million people, or 8.3% of the U.S. population, have diabetes, and an estimated 79 million people, or 35% of the population, have prediabetes. In 2010 alone, more than 1.9 million people were newly diagnosed with diabetes. In 2007, diabetes was the seventh leading cause of death and cost the U.S. healthcare system an estimated \$174 billion.

“For people living with diabetes, as well as their caretakers, tools and resources are vital to proper treatment,” said [Larry Hausner](#), CEO, American Diabetes Association. “We are so pleased to be joining forces with the American Pharmacists Association and the APhA Foundation in this important and worthwhile endeavor.”

As the collaboration works to develop new tools and resources, it will promote the use of programs that are currently in place and then use these initiatives as a foundation for the development of new programs. These programs include:

The American Diabetes Association’s [Stop Diabetes® Movement](#):

Launched in November 2009, Stop Diabetes® is the American Diabetes Association’s movement to end the devastating toll that diabetes takes on the lives of millions of individuals across our nation. Its goal is to inspire and mobilize the general public, volunteers, donors, corporations and the scientific and medical communities to rally around our cause and our call to "share, act, learn and give."

The American Diabetes Association’s [Living with Type 2 Diabetes Program](#):

This free program helps patients with many of the questions they may have when they are first diagnosed with diabetes – Why is this happening? Will I have to inject insulin? Which symptoms should I watch for? What foods can I eat? What kind of exercise do I need? Where do I start? The ADA will send patients information and support for 12 months at no cost. The program is available in both English and Spanish, and patients can choose to receive the information online and by mail.

APhA [Pharmacist and Patient Centered Diabetes Care](#) – Certificate Training Program:

Pharmaceutical Care for Patients with Diabetes is an innovative and intensive certificate program that focuses on the pharmacist’s role in the area of diabetes management. The program, which emphasizes a health care team approach, seeks to foster the implementation of pharmaceutical care interventions that will promote disease self-management.

APhA-Academy of Student Pharmacists [Operation Diabetes](#):

The American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) launched Operation Diabetes in 2000, sponsored by Rite Aid. Operation Diabetes is a promotional campaign designed to increase

awareness of diabetes and the dangers associated with the disease, provide glucose screening and monitoring, and promote pharmaceutical care in the community. The goal is not to diagnose diabetes, but rather to provide information to the patient and the general public so they can become more knowledgeable about the disease and recognize the signs and symptoms of diabetes.

The [APhA Foundation](#) has conducted several studies demonstrating improved test results and patient outcomes when pharmacists are involved in the management and self-care of patients with diabetes. For more information, visit the links below or www.aphafoundation.org.

- [Project IMPACT: Diabetes](#): Ongoing since 2011
- [The Asheville Project](#): Ongoing since 1996
- [Diabetes Ten City Challenge](#): Conducted in 2007
- [Patient Self-Management Program for Diabetes](#): Conducted in 2002

[Thomas Menighan](#), BSPharm, MBA, FAPhA, APhA Executive Vice President and CEO, commented, “APhA is excited to partner with the American Diabetes Association to expand our patient outreach opportunities. Pharmacists are the medication experts and the most accessible health care provider. According to the CDC, 84% of adults with diabetes are using medications as therapy. There may be several different medications these patients are taking and this is an excellent opportunity for pharmacists to talk with these patients and ensure that the patients understand the medications and the conditions they are trying to treat.”

Mindy Smith, BSPharm, Executive Director, APhA Foundation said “Partnering with the American Diabetes Association presents the APhA Foundation with a great opportunity to integrate the educational tools and resources we have developed through our research programs. We look forward to working with them on tools and programming to share how the APhA Foundation’s proven models of improved patient care ensure community pharmacists are able to team with physicians and other members of the healthcare team to ensure patients have the right tools and resources to optimize their medication use.”

About the [American Pharmacists Association](#)

The American Pharmacists Association, founded in 1852 as the American Pharmaceutical Association, is a 501 (c)(6) organization, representing more than 62,000 practicing pharmacists, pharmaceutical scientists, student pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and others interested in advancing the profession. APhA, dedicated to helping all pharmacists improve medication use and advance patient care, is the first-established and largest association of pharmacists in the United States.

About the American Pharmacists Association Foundation

The APhA Foundation is affiliated with the American Pharmacists Association, the national professional society of pharmacists in the U.S. The APhA Foundation, a nonprofit organization based in Washington, D.C., works to design solutions to medication use problems in America. The APhA Foundation’s mission is to optimize the role of pharmacists in improving people’s health. For more information, please visit the APhA Foundation website www.aphafoundation.org.

About the American Diabetes Association

The American Diabetes Association is leading the fight to Stop Diabetes® and its deadly consequences and fighting for those affected by diabetes. The Association funds research to

prevent, cure and manage diabetes; delivers services to hundreds of communities; provides objective and credible information; and gives voice to those denied their rights because of diabetes. Founded in 1940, our mission is to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes. For more information please call the American Diabetes Association at 1-800-DIABETES (1-800-342-2383) or visit www.diabetes.org. Information from both these sources is available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

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