

March 27 is American Diabetes Association Alert Day®. Please join with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) during American Diabetes Association Alert Day® to help inform seniors and other people with Medicare about the seriousness of diabetes. Currently, 25.8 million Americans are living with diabetes and an additional 79 million (or one in three American adults) are at risk for developing type 2 diabetes. If left undiagnosed and untreated, diabetes may increase the risk for complications such as heart disease, stroke, blindness, kidney damage, amputations, and death related to pneumonia and flu.

Medicare Coverage:

Medicare provides coverage of the following diabetes-related services for certain Medicare beneficiaries:

- Diabetes screening tests
- Diabetes self-management training (DSMT)
- Diabetes supplies
- Dilated eye exam (for diabetic retinopathy)
- Foot care
- Glaucoma screening
- Hemoglobin A1c tests
- Influenza and pneumococcal immunizations
- Medical nutrition therapy (MNT) for certain beneficiaries diagnosed with diabetes and/or renal disease*

What Can You Do?

As a health care professional who provides services to seniors and other people with Medicare, CMS needs your help to ensure that all eligible Medicare beneficiaries take advantage of the diabetes screening tests as well as all of the other diabetes-related services they may be eligible to receive.

For More Information:

- [The Guide to Medicare Preventive Services](#) (see Chapter 6)
- [Diabetes-Related Services Brochure](#)
- [Quick Reference Information: Medicare Preventive Services](#)
- [National Diabetes Education Program \(NDEP\) Website](#)
- [American Diabetes Association Alert Day Website](#)

**Note: For the purpose of this benefit, renal disease means chronic renal insufficiency or the medical condition of a beneficiary who has been discharged from the hospital after a successful renal transplant for up to 36 months post transplant. Chronic renal insufficiency means a reduction in renal function not severe enough to require dialysis or transplantation [Glomerular Filtration Rate (GFR) 13-50 ml/min/1.73m²].*