

November is National Diabetes Awareness Month and Diabetic Eye Disease Month. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) asks the provider community to keep their patients with Medicare healthy by encouraging eligible patients to take advantage of Medicare-covered diabetes-related services.

Diabetes can lead to severe complications such as heart disease, stroke, and kidney failure. It is also a significant risk factor for developing glaucoma.

Medicare provides coverage of several diabetes-related preventive services for eligible beneficiaries, including:

- Diabetes Screening Tests,
- Diabetes Self-Management Training,
- Medical Nutrition Therapy,
- Diabetes-Related Supplies, and
- Glaucoma Screening.

What Can You Do?

As a health care professional who provides care to patients with Medicare, you can help protect the health of your patients by encouraging them to take advantage of Medicare-covered preventive services, including diabetes-related services, that are appropriate for them.

For More Information

CMS has developed several educational products related to Medicare-covered diabetes-related services. They are all available, free of charge, from the Medicare Learning Network®:

- **The MLN Preventive Services Educational Products Web Page** ~ provides descriptions and ordering information for Medicare Learning Network® (MLN) educational products for health care professionals related to Medicare-covered preventive services.
http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/35_PreventiveServices.asp
- **The Diabetes-Related Services brochure**~ this brochure provides information on coverage for Medicare-covered diabetes-related services. This product is available in hardcopy or as a downloadable PDF.
<http://www.cms.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/DiabetesSvc.pdf>
- **The Glaucoma Screening brochure**~ this brochure provides information on coverage for Medicare-covered glaucoma screening. This product is available in hardcopy or as a downloadable PDF.
<http://www.cms.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/glaucoma.pdf>
- **The Guide to Medicare Preventive Services for Physicians, Providers, Suppliers, and Other Health Care Professionals** ~ provides coverage and coding information on Medicare-covered preventive services and screenings. Available as a downloadable PDF only.
http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/mps_guide_web-061305.pdf
- **Quick Reference Information: Medicare Preventive Services** ~ this chart provides coverage and coding information on Medicare-covered preventive services.
http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/MPS_QuickReferenceChart_1.pdf
- **The Medicare Preventive Services Series: Part 2 Web-Based-Training (WBT) course**~ this WBT includes lessons on coverage, coding, and billing for Medicare-covered preventive services, including diabetes-related services. To access the course, please visit the MLN

- home page at <http://www.cms.gov/mlngeninfo> on the internet. Scroll down to “Related Links Inside CMS” and click on “Web Based Training (WBT) Modules”.
- **The Medicare Preventive Services Series: Part e Web-Based-Training (WBT) course~** this WBT includes lessons on coverage, coding, and billing for Medicare-covered preventive services, including glaucoma screening. To access the course, please visit the MLN home page at <http://www.cms.gov/mlngeninfo> on the internet. Scroll down to “Related Links Inside CMS” and click on “Web Based Training (WBT) Modules”.

Please visit the [Medicare Learning Network](#) for more information on these and other Medicare fee-for-service educational products.

For more information on National Diabetes Awareness Month, please visit the American Diabetes Association’s official page at http://www.diabetes.org/in-my-community/programs/american-diabetes-month/?utm_source=WWW&utm_medium=DropDownIMC&utm_content=AmerDiabMonth&utm_campaign=ADM on the internet.

For additional information on National Diabetes Awareness Month, please visit the National Diabetes Education Program (NDEP) website at <http://ndep.nih.gov/whats-new/posting.aspx?id=23> on the internet.

For more information on diabetic eye disease, please visit the Prevent Blindness America website at <http://www.preventblindness.org> on the internet.

For more information to share with your patients about diabetes, please visit the NDEP website at <http://www.ndep.nih.gov> on the internet.