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CHCS

Center for Health Care Strategies, Inc.

ROI Evidence Base: Studies on Diabetes

November 2007

This set of studies is part of the *ROI Evidence Base*, which was developed by the Center for Health Care Strategies and Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. to help policymakers identify intervention strategies with the potential to both improve quality and reduce health care costs. For the full *ROI Evidence Base*, visit **www.chcs.org**.

Made possible through funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Diabetes Studies Reporting Decreases in Cost/Utilization - Summary Table

| Clinical Focus | Author/ Year | Target Population | Intervention Strategies | Evaluation Timeframe | Cost/Utilization Outcomes | Quality of Evidence |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|---|-------------------------|--|------------------------|
| Diabetes | Sadur 1999 | Adults | Six monthly group meetings led by a diabetes nurse educator and a multidisciplinary team. Meetings included health and diet education, and medication review. Phone contacts with nurse between meetings to review diabetes management. | 1 year | 43% reduction in number of hospitalizations; 28% reduction in number of physician visits; | A |
| Diabetes | Wagner 2001 | Adults | Group meetings every 3-6 months over 2 years, consisting of one- on-one visits with physician, nurse, and pharmacist; and group educational/peer support sessions. Nurses developed individualized plans for each participant and the entire group prior to each meeting. | 2 years | 50% reduction in number of ER visits | A |
| Diabetes | Wolf 2004 | Adults | Registered Dietitian led individual, group, and telephone patient educational and support sessions. | 1 year | 14% reduction in total number of medications per day | А |
| Diabetes | Barnett 2006 | Adults | Patients used a simple messaging device (requiring only basic phone service and an electrical outlet) to answer scripted questions about symptoms and health status. Nurse care coordinators monitored responses daily and acted according to clinical judgment | 2 years | 9% reduction in all-cause hospitalizations. | В |
| Diabetes | Villagra 2004 | Adults | Telephonic disease management; web-based patient education; home remote patient monitoring devices; reminders and educational mailings for patients. Mail, fax, or telephone progress reports to primary care doctors. | 1 year | 24% reduction in hospitalizations; 14% reduction in ER visits; 5% reduction in office visits | В |
| Diabetes | Davidson 2007 | Adults | Specially trained nurse, under endocrinologist supervision, treated patients following detailed diabetes care algorithms. | 1 year | 71% reduction in combined outcome of preventable diabetes-related ER visits and hospitalizations | С |
| Diabetes | Sidorov 2002 | Adults | Scheduled one-on-one or group diabetes patient education sessions at primary care offices provided by traveling nurse educators. Promotion of guideline-based care to primary care doctors by nurse educators, and program sponsorship of diabetes CME for doctors. | 2 years | 25% reduction in number of all-cause hospitalizations | С |

Wherever possible, impacts on service utilization (such as hospital admissions or ER visits) are expressed as percentage reductions in the number of services per person per unit time. If the article does not present numbers of services per person per unit time but does provide total number of services, this quantity is estimated by dividing the number of services by the sample size, without accounting for variable lengths of follow up or for mortality. In cases where only numbers or proportions of people with any (one or more) service use are reported, service use impacts are expressed as percentage reductions in the proportion with any service use.

Detail for Selected Study - Sadur 1999

| <u>Characteristic</u> | Description | | |
|----------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Author and Year of Publication | Sadur 1999 | | |
| Clinical Focus | Diabetes | | |
| Target Population | Members of Northern California Kaiser Health Plan with either Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes | | |
| Intervention Strategies | In addition to regular care from primary care doctor, a total of six monthly group meetings at the clinic (Diabetes Cooperative Care Clinics). Groups consisted of 10-18 patients, each meeting lasting 2 hours, led by a diabetes nurse educator and a multidisciplinary team of a dietitian, a behaviorist, and a pharmacist. Meetings included blood pressure measurement, education on home blood glucose monitoring; individual and group consultations with dietitian, behaviorist, and pharmacist; and referrals to podiatrist, ophthalmologist, and smoking cessation programs. Additional health education talks as voted on by group, e.g., diabetes complications, foot care, exercise, stress and emotional issues in diabetes, sexual dysfunction. Between meetings, phone contacts by nurse with patients to review diabetes management with frequency ranging from every 3d. to 2 weeks. Nurses regularly reviewed all cases with diabetologist. | | |
| Additional Targeting Criteria | Ages 16-75 y.o., hemoglobin A1c>8.5% or no hemoglobin A1c measured within past year. | | |
| Opt-in/opt-out, if available | Opt-in | | |
| Enrollment rate, if available | 70% | | |
| Geographic Location | Pleasanton, CA | | |
| Health Care Setting | Kaiser-Permanente Pleasanton Clinic | | |
| Health Insurance | HMO (Kaiser-Permanente Northern California) | | |
| Quality of Evidence | A | | |
| Study Design | Randomized controlled trial | | |
| Sample Size | 185 (T=97; C=88) | | |
| Evaluation Timeframe | 1 year | | |
| Cost/Utilization Outcomes | 43% reduction in number of hospitalizations over 18 months after randomization, including the 6 month intervention period (T=16/1,000 persons/month, C=28/1,000 persons/month, p=0.04). 28% reduction in number physician visits in the 6 months after the six month intervention period, (T=242/1,000 persons/month, C=338/1,000 persons/month, p=0.06) 50% reduction in number of non-physician visits in the 6 months after the six month intervention period, (T=167/1,000 persons/month, C=333/1,000 persons/month, p=0.001) | | |
| Full Citation | Sadur, Craig N., Nancy Moline, Mary Costa, Dorothea Michalik, Debra Mendlowitz, Sharon Roller, Randy Watson, Bix E. Swain, Joe V. Selby, and W. Curtis Javorski. "Diabetes Management in a Health Maintenance Organization: Efficacy of Care Management Using Cluster Visits." <i>Diabetes Care</i> , vol. 22, no. 12, December 1999, pp. 2011-2017. | | |

Detail for Selected Study – Wagner, 2001

| <u>Characteristic</u> | Description | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Author and Year of Publication | Wagner 2001 | | |
| Clinical Focus | Diabetes | | |
| Target Population | Members of Group Health Cooperative with diabetes | | |
| Intervention Strategies | Group meetings at the clinic every 3-6 months over 2 years. Groups consisted of 6-10 patients, each meeting consisted of one-on-one visits with the primary care physician, a nurse, and a pharmacist; and a 1 hour group educational/peer support session. Prior to each meeting, intervention nurses developed individualized plans and goals for each participant during the upcoming meeting, as well as plans and goals for the entire group. | | |
| Additional Targeting Criteria | None stated | | |
| Opt-in/opt-out, if available | Opt-in | | |
| Enrollment rate, if available | 70% | | |
| Geographic Location | Seattle, WA | | |
| Health Care Setting | Seattle area clinics of Group Health Cooperative | | |
| Health Insurance | HMO (Group Health Cooperative) | | |
| Quality of Evidence | A | | |
| Study Design | Group randomized (practice-level) controlled trial | | |
| Sample Size | 35 practices (T=14, C=21), 707 patients (T=278; C=429) | | |
| Evaluation Timeframe | 2 years | | |
| Cost/Utilization Outcomes | 50% reduction in number of ER visits over 2 years (T=0.1/year, C=0.2/year, p=0.04) 16% increase in number of primary care visits over 2 years (T=6.4/year, C=5.5/year, p=0.05). 24% reduction in number of specialty visits over 2 years (T=2.8/year, C=3.7/year, p=0.007) 20% reduction in proportion with hospital admission (T=16.9%, C=21.0%, <i>p=0.10</i>) Effects on total costs non-significant (p=0.79) | | |
| Full Citation | Wagner, Edward H., Lois C. Grothaus, Nirmala Sandhu, Mary Sue Galvin, Mary McGregor, Karen Artz, and Eric A. Coleman. "Chronic Care Clinics for Diabetes in Primary Care." <i>Diabetes Care</i> , vol. 25, no. 5, April 2001, pp. 695-700. | | |

Detail for Selected Study – Wolf, 2004

| <u>Characteristic</u> | Description | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Author and Year of Publication | Wolf 2004 | | |
| Clinical Focus | Diabetes | | |
| Target Population | Members of commercial health insurance plan in Virginia (Southern Health Services Plan) with obesity and diabetes | | |
| Intervention Strategies | Over the course of 1 year, participants had 6 individual sessions (approximately 4 hours total) and 6 one-hour small group sessions with a Registered Dietitian (RD). RD also conducted brief monthly phone contacts with participants for support. | | |
| Additional Targeting Criteria | Use of diabetes medications, body mass index \geq 27 kg/m ² , age \geq 20 y.o. | | |
| Opt-in/opt-out, if available | Opt-in | | |
| Enrollment rate, if available | 11% | | |
| Geographic Location | Charlottesville, VA | | |
| Health Care Setting | Academic Medical Center | | |
| Health Insurance | Commercial | | |
| Quality of Evidence | A | | |
| Study Design | Randomized controlled trial | | |
| Sample Size | 144 (T =73; C = 71) | | |
| Evaluation Timeframe | 1 year | | |
| Cost/Utilization Outcomes | 14% reduction in total number of medications per day (T = 5 medications/day; C = 5.8 medications/day; p = 0.03). No other cost/utilization outcomes reported. | | |
| Full Citation | Wolf, Anne M., Mark R. Conaway, Jayne Q. Crowther, Kristen Y. Hazen, Jerry L. Nadler, Beverly Oneida, and Viktor E. Bovbjerg. "Translating Lifestyle Intervention to Practice in Obese Patients with Type 2 Diabetes." <i>Diabetes Care</i> , vol. 27, no. 7, July 2004, pp. 1570- 1576. | | |

| Detail for Selecte | Detail for Selected Study – Barnett, 2006 | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| | | | |
| <u>Characteristic</u> | Description | | |
| Author and Year of Publication | Barnett 2006 | | |
| Clinical Focus | Diabetes | | |
| Target Population | Adults (veterans) with diabetes | | |
| Intervention Strategies | Patients were provided with a home messaging device requiring only basic telephone service and an electrical outlet. Using this device, patients answered scripted questions every day on their diabetes symptoms and health status. Nurse care coordinators (RNs or nurse practitioners) monitored patients' responses daily and made clinical judgments on whether responses required actions and the types of appropriate follow-up (for example, assessing the patient over the phone, scheduling follow-up appointments, refilling medications, helping with medication management, calling to remind patients about appointments). | | |
| Additional Targeting Criteria | Two or more VA hospitalizations or VA ER visits in the 12 months before enrollment. | | |
| Opt-in/opt-out, if available | Opt-in | | |
| Enrollment rate, if available | not stated | | |
| Geographic Location | Florida, southern Georgia, and Puerto Rico | | |
| Health Care Setting | 4 VA Medical Centers | | |
| Health Insurance | VA | | |
| Quality of Evidence | В | | |
| Study Design | Comparison group design using propensity scoring and difference-in-differences | | |
| Sample Size | 782 (T=391; C=391) | | |
| Evaluation Timeframe | 24 months | | |
| Cost/Utilization Outcomes | 9% reduction in all-cause hospitalization.ª Impact on ER visits not assessable (because of propensity score design, comparison group had a very high rate of ER visits at baseline) | | |

Barnett, 2006 continued

| Full Citation | Barnett, Tracey E., Neale R. Chumbler, W. Bruce Vogel, Rebecca J. Beyth, Haijing Qin, and Rita Kobb. "The Effectiveness of a Care Coordination Home Telehealth Program for Veterans with Diabetes Mellitus." <i>American Journal of Managed Care</i> , vol. 12, no. 8, August 2006, pp. 467-474. |
|---------------|---|
| | ^a The authors actually estimated a 25% reduction in hospitalizations between the intervention and comparison groups, using combined "propensity score matching" and "difference-in-differences" methodologies. We derived the 9% listed here from the raw numbers of admissions at baseline and follow-up for the two groups (Barnett personal communication), assuming that the fixed baseline difference in admissions between intervention and comparison groups also applies to the post-period, and that half of the admissions in the two year follow-up period occurred in the first year of follow-up. We used the following formula for this calculation: {(treatment post)-(comparison post plus baseline T-C difference)}/(comparison post plus baseline T-C difference). For more information on the results, please refer to the article directly. |

Detail for Selected Study – Villagra, 2004

| <u>Characteristic</u> | Description | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Author and Year of Publication | Villagra 2004 | | |
| Clinical Focus | Diabetes | | |
| Target Population | Employees of self-insured employers covered under HMO and POS plans with diabetes | | |
| Intervention Strategies | Telephonic disease management; web-based patient education; remote patient monitoring devices; reminders and educational mailings for patients. Mail, fax, or telephone progress reports to primary care doctors. | | |
| Additional Targeting Criteria | None | | |
| Opt-in/opt-out, if available | Opt-out | | |
| Enrollment rate, if available | 97% | | |
| Geographic Location | 10 areas of the sponsoring MCO: Nashville, TN; Florida; Denver, CO; mid-Atlantic states (Baltimore, Washington, DC, Philadelphia, Delaware, and southern NJ); Dallas, TX; Houston, TX; Chicago, IL; Kansas; Ohio; and NYC metro area (including northern NJ, and CT) | | |
| Health Care Setting | Private physician offices | | |
| Health Insurance | Managed care | | |
| Quality of Evidence | В | | |
| Study Design | Presents two separate analyses: A regression adjusted parallel group comparison using the 5 early implementation sites as treatments and 5 late implementation sites as controls, and a regression adjusted pre-post comparison (at the program level with all 10 sites aggregated). In addition, 2 sub-analyses conducted for each of these 2 analyses: <i>full</i> participants (those enrolled in the first 2 months of the intervention who remained in the program until the completion of the first year) and <i>all</i> participants (any who had at least one month of exposure to the program even if they subsequently dropped out). | | |
| Sample Size | Pre/post comparison all participants: 75,759 (Pre=32,267; Post=43,492) Parallel group comparison all participants: 39,292 (T=27,188; Comparison=12,104) | | |
| Evaluation Timeframe | 1 year | | |

Villagra, 2004 continued

| Cost/Utilization Outcomes | Parallel group comparison all participants (preferred method): 22% reduction in total costs (T=\$431/person/month, C=\$551/person/month, p<0.0001); 2% reduction in inpatient costs (T=\$145/person/month, C=\$147/person/month, p<0.10); 24% reduction in hospitalizations (T=157/1,000 persons/month, C=206/1,000 persons/month, p<0.0001); 14% reduction in ER visits (263/1,000 persons/month, C=307/1,000 persons/month, p<0.0001); 5% reduction in office visits (T=6.56/1,000 persons/month, C=6.93/1,000 persons/month, p<0.0001). Pre/post comparison all participants: 5% reduction in total costs (post=\$464/person/month, pre=\$490/person/month, p<0.001); 12% reduction in inpatient costs (post=\$137/person/month, pre=\$156/person/month, p<0.001); 17% reduction in number of hospitalizations (post=172/1,000 persons/month, p<0.0001); 9% increase in ER visits (post=286/1,000 persons/month, pre=262/1,000 persons/month, p<0.0001); 2% reduction in office visits (post=286/1,000 persons/month, pre=262/1,000 persons/month, p<0.0001); |
|------------------------------|---|
| | 2% reduction in office visits (post=6.63/1,000 persons/month, pre=6.75/1,000 persons/month, p<0.001). |
| Full Citation | Villagra, Victor G. and Tamim Ahmed. "Effectiveness of a Disease Management Program for Patients with Diabetes." <i>Health Affairs</i> , vol. 23, no. 4, July/August 2004, pp. 255-266. |

Detail for Selected Study – Sidorov, 2002

| <u>Characteristic</u> | Description |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Author and Year of Publication | Davidson 2007 |
| Clinical Focus | Diabetes |
| Target Population | Patients with diabetes attending a county-sponsored community clinic (patients were predominantly low-income and from minority groups) |
| Intervention Strategies | Specially trained nurse followed detailed diabetes treatment algorithms to provide diabetes care. Cholesterol targets and recommended processes of care were based on the ADA guidelines. An endocrinologist also met with the nurse once a week, but was available by phone at all other times. |
| Additional Targeting Criteria | None |
| Opt-in/opt-out, if available | Opt-in |
| Enrollment rate, if available | Not available |
| Geographic Location | Los Angeles |
| Health Care Setting | County-sponsored community clinic affiliated with Charles A. Drew University |
| Health Insurance | Not reported |
| Quality of Evidence | C |
| Study Design | Pre-post |
| Sample Size | 367 |
| Evaluation Timeframe | 1 year |
| Cost/Utilization Outcomes | 71% reduction in combined outcome of "preventable diabetes-related urgent care visits/ER visits/hospitalizations" (Pre-: 21 events [15 urgent care/ER + 6 hospitalizations]; post-: 6 events [5 urgent care/ER + 1 hospitalization]; p<0.001). |
| Full Citation | Davidson, Mayer B., Adeela Ansari, and Vicki J. Karlan. "Effect of a Nurse-Directed Diabetes Disease Management Program on Urgent Care/Emergency Room Visits and Hospitalizations in a Minority Population." <i>Diabetes Care</i> , vol. 30, no. 2, February 2007, pp. 224-227. (Additional details of the intervention in Davidson, Mayer B., Maria Castellanos, Petra Duran, and Vicki Karlan. "Effective Diabetes Care by a Registered Nurse Following Treatment Algorithms in a Minority Population." <i>American Journal of Managed Care</i> , vol. 12, no. 4, April 2006, pp. 226-232. |

Detail for Selected Study – Sidorov, 2002

| <u>Characteristic</u> | Description |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Author and Year of Publication | Sidorov 2002 |
| Clinical Focus | Diabetes |
| Target Population | Enrollees with diabetes in Geisinger Health Plan's commercial HMO or Medicare-risk HMO |
| Intervention Strategies | Team of roughly 50 nurse educators each assigned to cover 1 to 15 primary care sites depending on geography and patient load. Educators provided scheduled one-on-one or group education sessions with enrollees at the primary care offices and recorded visits in practices' medical records for physician review and co-signature. Nurse educators also provided informal, guideline based recommendations to primary care doctors, performed case management, and facilitated specialty referrals. Program offered CME sessions to doctors. To encourage enrollment, nurses could offer glucose meters and 100 test strips at no cost to patients meeting criteria. |
| Additional Targeting Criteria | none |
| Opt-in/opt-out, if available | Opt-in |
| Enrollment rate, if available | 46% |
| Geographic Location | 41 counties in northeastern and central Pennsylvania |
| Health Care Setting | Primary care physician offices |
| Health Insurance | Commercial and Medicare-risk HMOs by Geisinger Health Plan |
| Quality of Evidence | C |
| Study Design | Comparison of participants and non-participants with regression adjustment for measured differences |
| Sample Size | 6,799 (T=3,118; comparison=3,681). |
| Evaluation Timeframe | 2 years |
| Cost/Utilization Outcomes | 25% reduction in number of all-cause hospitalizations (T=0.12/person/year, C=0.16/person/year, p=0.026) 21% reduction in paid claims excluding pharmacy (T=\$394.62/person/month, C=\$502.48/person/month, p<0.0001) 43% reduction in inpatient days (T=0.56/person/year, C=0.98/person/year, p=0.003) 8% increase in primary care office visits (T=8.36/person/year, C=7.78/person/year, p=0.001) |
| Full Citation | Sidorov, Jaan, Robert Shull, Janet Tomcavage, Sabrina Girolami, Nadine Lawton, and Ronald Harris. "Does Diabetes Disease Management Save Money and Improve Outcomes?" <i>Diabetes Care</i> , vol. 25, no. 4, April 2002, pp. 684-689 |