Statewide Diabetes Clinical Network Fact Sheet

What is the Statewide Diabetes Clinical Network (SDCN)?
The SDCN was established in 2005 and is currently co-chaired by Associate Professor Anthony Russell and Dr Trisha O’Moore-Sullivan. A/Prof Anthony Russell is the Director of Endocrinology and Diabetes at the Princess Alexandra Hospital in South Brisbane. Dr Trisha O’Moore-Sullivan is the Director of Endocrinology at Mater Health Services in South Brisbane.

The overall purpose of the SDCN is to:
- achieve quality and safety improvements in diabetes clinical practice and services utilising the knowledge and experience of clinicians
- provide expertise, strategic direction and advice to the Queensland Health Executive in relation to diabetes issues, and
- provide a collaborative and supportive environment for clinicians and other government and non-government personnel to be actively engaged in the improvement of care and outcomes for patients with diabetes.

The SDCN is comprised of:
- The Clinical Co-Chairs who lead the clinical network.
- The Steering Committee which acts upon and drives decisions made by the network.
- SCDN Working Groups who progress specific projects identified as priorities of the network.
- Clinical Network Members include Queensland clinicians working in the area of diabetes.
- The Network Coordinator who manages the ongoing development of the network.

Current Working Groups

Diabetes in Pregnancy Working Group
Chaired by Professor David McIntyre, this working group is currently acting in a consultative manner to a major project focusing on Gestational Diabetes Mellitus (GDM). A GDM Reference Group of expert clinicians has been established to drive the GDM project and a number of Diabetes in Pregnancy Working Group members have been invited to be a part of this group. The GDM project will identify and map current resources, care practices and pathways relating to gestational diabetes across Queensland. A best practice pathway and statewide guideline will be developed for the diagnosis and management of gestational diabetes.

Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus Working Group
Chaired by Dr Trisha O’Moore-Sullivan and Dr Louise Conwell, this working group is focused on the development and subsequent pilot study of adult and paediatric diabetic ketoacidosis protocols. The working group also plans to produce a manuscript for publication from the previous work done as part of the Diabetes Collaborative Project, update the Inpatient Insulin Pump Guidelines and update the ‘Sweet’ website and the Type 1 Diabetes component of the RCH Foundation website.

Diabetic Foot Working Group
Chaired by Mr Ewan Kinnear, this working group continues its work on improving the management of diabetic foot complications. The working group is working on developing and implementing the Acute Diabetic Foot and Ambulatory Diabetic Foot models of care. The working group will also continue to progress their Diabetic Foot Online Education Modules to completion.

Other Priorities

Diabetes Health Service Planning
The SDCN are assisting Queensland Health’s Planning Branch in the Statewide Diabetes Services Planning Project. This project is a significant undertaking that will determine future Queensland Health diabetes services.

Potentially Preventable Hospitalisations
The SDCN will assess the types and extent of potentially preventable hospitalisations related to diabetes in Queensland. Each working group is reviewing available data relating to potentially preventable hospitalisations related to their target population. The SDCN is actively working toward strategies to keep patients well in the community.

Who do I contact?
If you have any queries, wish to contribute, or would like to join the SDCN, please contact:

Network Coordinator: Katie Wykes
Phone: (07) 3646 9787
Email: clinical_networks@health.qld.gov.au