

COVID-19 & DIABETES

CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH IN PUBLIC HOUSING



Agenda



Introduction



Roll Call



Challenges and Limitations



Promising Practices

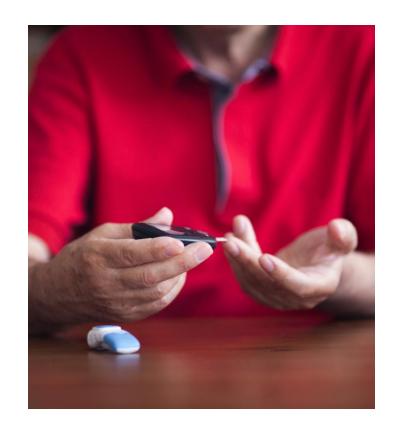


Final Thoughts



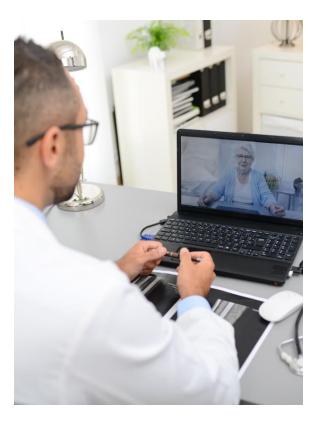
Challenges and Limitations - Providers

- COVID-19 pandemic affects diabetic patients differently:
 - Some populations are more likely to be affected by COVID-19 than others
- Meal planning, stress, isolation, exercise indoors/outdoors, etc....





Challenges and Limitations - Providers



- Continue to have patients on track: balance between in-person & virtual visits
- Virtual visits: Assess patients
- Social & financial issues, low-literacy
- Dietary challenges: access to healthy food
- Video interpreters



Challenges - Patients

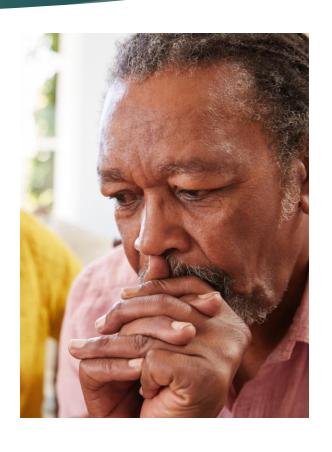
- ▶ Technology challenges
- Internet Access
- Phone appointments
- Video visits
- Food delivery
- Fear to go to the clinics
- Access to Medication: shortage of medication
- Low Literacy
- What is social distancing, quarantine?
- Public charge: test patients with diabetes for COVID-19





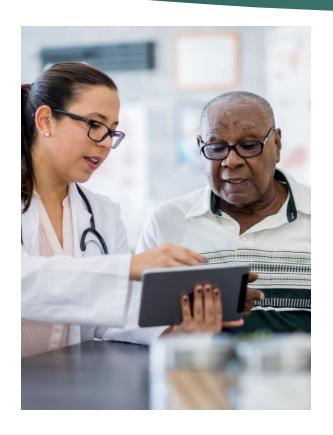
Telehealth Concerns - Patients

- ► Technical Problems
- Unnecessary
- Preference for in-person visits
- Technology anxiety
- Difficulty remembering to interact w/system
- Need for technical support
- Repetitive process





Promising Practices



- Empowering diabetic patients with accurate information
- Video Conferences/Telemedicine
- After hour phone visits
- Virtual shopping
- Incorporate discussion on SDOH



Promising Practices



► ECHO Clinics:

- provider education program
- Peer support coaches: outreach, food insecurity programs, technology issues
- Resources: mental health support, community resources, One-pagers
- Diabetes Health Care Team: need to be connected.
- ▶ Phone visits: to assess medication needs
- Working with community partners, food pantries, other pharmacies, etc.



Empowering Patients with Diabetes

Lots of Information:

• outbreak, fatality rate, incidence, prevalence.

How does it affect people w/diabetes:

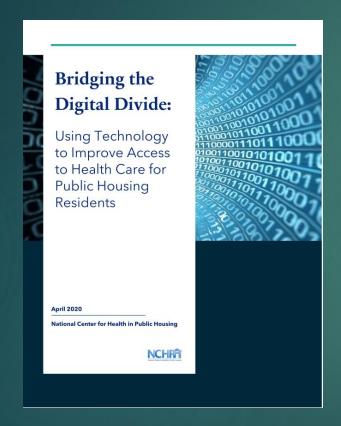
Case definition



Image source: CDC.gov



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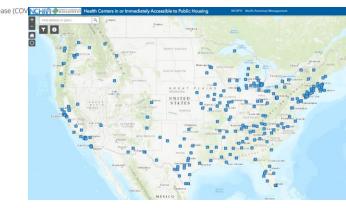
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