# QI Weekly

## **Diabetes HbA1c**



#### **Long-term Complications of Uncontrolled Diabetes:**

#### **Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD):**

According to the CDC (data through 2018), 37% of adults diagnosed with diabetes had CKD (stages 1 through 4); and fewer than 25% with moderate to severe CKD (stage 3 or 4) were aware of their condition.

#### **Foot Ulcers and Amputations:**

- According to the American Diabetes Association, worldwide, a person loses a limb due to diabetes-related complications every 30 seconds.
- A 2012 NIH study found that foot ulcers occur in 4-10% of people with diabetes.
  - > 5-24% of ulcers will eventually lead to limb amputation within 6–18 months of the initial evaluation

### **Comprehensive Diabetes Care: HbA1c**

Patient Population: Diabetic patients 18 to 75 years of age who have evidence of:

- HbA1c testing
- HbA1c controlled <8% (threshold varies by payer, but <8% is the most stringent)</li>

#### Service Needed:

- HbA1c testing on all diabetic patients in 2020
  AND
- Diabetes management so that all patients have the most recent HbA1c in 2020 ≤ 8%

**Note:** The measure counts the <u>last A1c</u> of the year. Excludes patients with gestational or steroid-induced diabetes and non-diabetic patients

If a patient has chronically-elevated HbA1c, check to see if your clinic has services available to help, including:

- Nutritional Counseling
- Case Management
- Patient Support Groups



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