Season’s Greetings from your ERP team!

We would like to thank each and every one of you for all that you do for people with diabetes, and we wish you and your loved ones a happy and safe holiday season and new year! To show our appreciation, we have a gift for you! Please see the National Benchmark Reporting section below for more information on this exciting addition we’ve made to applications and annual status reports.

As always, feel free to contact the ERP team at erp@diabetes.org or call 1-888-232-0822 with any Recognition or platform questions. Regular updates can be found at www.diabetes.org/erp.

Education Recognition Program DSMES Recognition Symposium—San Francisco, California

The ERP team is excited to announce that we will be hosting the 1st Symposium of 2020 in San Francisco on January 30, 2020. The Symposium is being held one day prior to the ADA 67th Advanced Postgraduate Course.

**When:** Thursday January 30, 2020  
**Where:** Hyatt Regency San Francisco, 5 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco, CA 94111  
**Time:** 8:15 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
**Registration/Check-In:** 7:30 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.  
**Fee:** $150 Registration Fee  
**Continuing Education Opportunity:** This symposium will offer up to 7.25 CE credits

National Benchmark Reporting

Over the past few years the ERP team has received numerous requests for National DSMES Benchmarks. We have listened and are happy to announce that additional refined outcome measures have been added to the participant outcomes section of applications and annual status reports beginning December 1, 2019.

The additional outcome measures below can now be reported on applications and annual status reports.
Please Note: Although the additional outcome measures are optional, we encourage all of our programs to report this information, if possible. With this newly refined data, we hope to provide the National Benchmark Report to you by this time next year.

**Ask the Experts Q&A Series**

Encourage your patients to join a FREE, educational Ask the Experts Q&A series created to help tackle issues commonly faced by people living with diabetes and wondering about the relationship between diabetes, heart disease, stroke, and heart failure. Participants ask questions—online or on the phone—in a live Q&A with ADA diabetes experts. All events start at 2:00 P.M. ET and last about an hour.

Learn more and direct your patients to register at [diabetes.org/experts4ERP](http://diabetes.org/experts4ERP). You can also encourage your patients to listen to recordings of past events on their own time at [diabetes.org/experts4ERP](http://diabetes.org/experts4ERP).

**Diabetes Take Control Guide Update**

The *Guide to your Journey with Diabetes*, previously known as the *Diabetes Take Control Guide* is currently in its final stages of content and branding review. We have secured the 40% discount for our ERP services making this a low-cost alternative and available in packs of 25. These booklets are slated to be available for purchase early next year. We will send out a separate email communication with more details as we get closer to the launch date.

**Spotlight**

From the desk of Julie Drzewiecki, MS, RD, CDE:

Diabetic Foot Care is the subject Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Project of the Marshall Medical Centers Diabetes Self-Management and Education and Support Program in Guntersville, Alabama.

According to a March 2014 article in “Diabetes Care,” foot ulcer care adds around 9 to 13 billion a year to the direct yearly costs associated with diabetes itself. Also, it is estimated that on average the cost is up to $17,000 to treat an individual's foot ulcer.

Our Continuous Improvement Project has been helping our clientele avoid developing foot ulcers since June 2018. The first year of the project focused on Foot Care Education. We purchased plastic feet with various stages of foot ulcers on them to display at class time. Also, displayed was a poster to remind them to check their feet daily. Another poster on display was an overview of diabetes foot care. Included in their take-home packets was the American Diabetes Association hand-out on Diabetic Foot Care with the packets held together with a paper clip shaped like a foot! Also, we developed a “Daily Foot Care Pledge”
sheet and encouraged them to sign it and check their feet daily. Our CQI Target was to have 80% of class participants checking their feet daily. After year one was completed, 69% of participants checked their feet daily after attending our DSMES program.

Our program began the second year of the CQI project in June 2019. This year we are still doing the same activities as in year one, but we have added a very exciting addition to our CQI project. The Guntersville Lions Club made a donation of mirrors to our program. Each class participant receives a sturdy Conair Mirror to check their feet daily. The Guntersville Lions Club even provided Medicool Foot Exam Mirrors with an extendable arm for those who are in a wheelchair or disabled. This Lions Club project was led by Amy McDonald, who is an engineer. She researched to make sure the mirrors they donated our program were sturdy and would not break easily. To quote Amy, “We don’t want a person with diabetes to have to walk on glass with their bare feet due to a broken mirror.”

News Flash! Thanks to this donation we hit our CQI target of having 80% of the participants checking their feet daily, according to our First Quarter 2019 Report! Also, other Lions Clubs across the State of Alabama are donating mirrors to their local DSMES programs. Collaboration works wonders!