

DIABETES FACTS

THE AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION

The American Diabetes Association is the nation's leading nonprofit health organization providing diabetes research, information and advocacy. Founded in 1940, it was reorganized in 1969 to increase its ability to serve the public. Today, affiliates and chapters in more than 800 communities conduct programs in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

The mission of the organization is "to prevent and cure diabetes, and to improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes." To fulfill this mission, the American Diabetes Association funds research, publishes scientific findings, and provides information and other services to people with diabetes, their families, health care professionals and the public.

Volunteer Power

The moving force behind our work is a network of more than one million volunteers, including a membership of 280,000 diabetes patients and their families, and a professional society of more than 12,500 physicians, scientists, nurses, dietitians, pharmacists, social workers, and educators.

Diabetes Patient Activities

The American Diabetes Association's "Diabetes Information and Action Line" (D.I.A.L.) is a national network of affiliate-operated information and referral telephone lines for people with diabetes and their loved ones. Available by calling 1-800-DIABETES (1-800-342-2383), D.I.A.L. can provide information about all aspects of diabetes management and refer callers to local diabetes programs and services, including:

- Diabetes education classes
- Year-round youth programs
- Counseling and support groups
- Advocacy services
- Information and referral services

Professional Activities

Education is provided for health care professionals to improve care for people with diabetes:

- Annual scientific sessions
- Annual postgraduate course for clinicians
- Other medical and scientific symposia
- Medical care guidelines and recommendations
- Diabetes patient education program accreditation

(over)

Research

To date, the Association has invested over \$100 million in diabetes research throughout the nation. Recent advances in research have resulted in:

- More precise methods to identify people who are at risk for diabetes and potential treatments to prevent the onset of the disease
- Improved techniques for islet cell transplantation
- Laser therapy to prevent diabetes-related blindness
- Better understanding of the importance of nutrition and psychosocial factors in diabetes treatment
- Researchers moving ever-closer to identifying the "diabetes genes"

Publications

The American Diabetes Association publishes more than 5 million pieces of literature every year including:

For people with diabetes:

- *Diabetes Forecast*, a magazine to help people with diabetes live fuller, healthier lives
- A comprehensive library of cookbooks and meal-planning guides, and food exchange lists
- Books, brochures and pamphlets on every aspect of living with diabetes

For health care professionals:

- *Diabetes*, the prestigious journal of diabetes research
- *Diabetes Care*, the journal for clinicians treating people with diabetes
- *Diabetes Spectrum*, practical interpretation of a current topic in diabetes research
- *Clinical Diabetes*, current medical information about diabetes and its treatment for the primary care physician
- *Diabetes Reviews*, review articles on major topics in diabetes research

For more information, contact the Communications Department of the American Diabetes Association National Center at 1-800-232-3472, ext. 2290.