



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

F O U N D A T I O N

Abstract of Study Funded with a Research Stimulation Grant in 2010

An Exploratory Qualitative Study of Persons with Diabetes who have Low Literacy and Good Glucose Control (G1002RS)

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Abstract

CONTEXT: Sixteen percent of the Latino population served by the Greater Lawrence Family Health Center (Massachusetts) is diabetic and of those, one-third is illiterate. Previously, we found the majority of our diabetic subjects with low literacy were found to have high HbA1c levels. However, a small percentage (84 subjects) was found to have low literacy, yet good Glycemic control HbA1c<7. **OBJECTIVE:** The long-term goal of this project is to increase understanding of internal, personal factors, as well as external, environmental and social factors associated with good glucose control in diabetic subjects considered illiterate. **METHODS: Population.** Sixty adult, Caribbean Latino diabetic subjects will be included, all of whom previous scored <23 on TOFHLA; 30 subjects with HbA1C <7 (good control group) and 30 with HbA1C 's ≥9, (poor control group). **Outcome Measures.** Qualitative – Subjects will be interviewed concerning personal issues with diabetes self-care, daily activities, and medications. Quantitative - PAID© (Problem Areas in Diabetes) and Stanford-Efficacy© questionnaires. **Analysis.** Grounded theory will be used to analyze interview transcripts. Themes developed from interviews will be reported as well as simple descriptive statistics from the PAID© and Stanford *Self-Efficacy for Diabetes* questionnaires. Results in food versus poor control groups will be compared. **Anticipated results, future plans.** We will submit a report to NAPCRG, also prepare a manuscript for submission to *Diabetes Care*. The information gained will be used to formulate an intervention study with other low-literacy diabetics to attempt to improve their Glycemic control, using measures to improve support or self-efficacy.