Easing the Transition Home: How a Partnership Between the Diabetes and Pharmacy Teams Increases Access to Medication at New Diabetes Diagnosis.

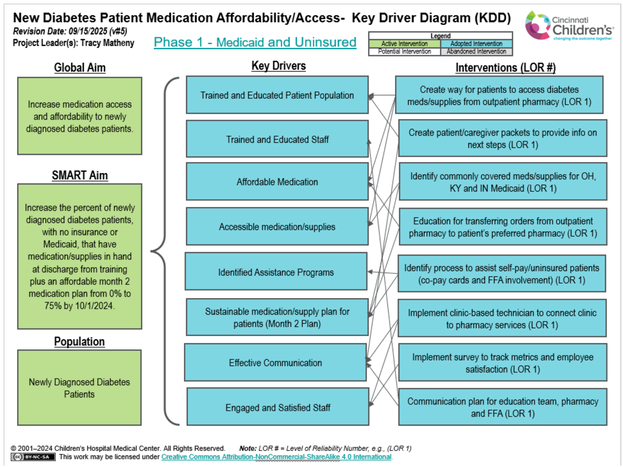
Catherine Fox, MS, RD, CDCES, Lauren Dunn, QIS II, Tracy Matheny, BS, Kathy Miller,CPHT, Melissa Healey, RPh, Nick Michel, PharmD, MS, Katie Schwaller, PharmD, MS

Background

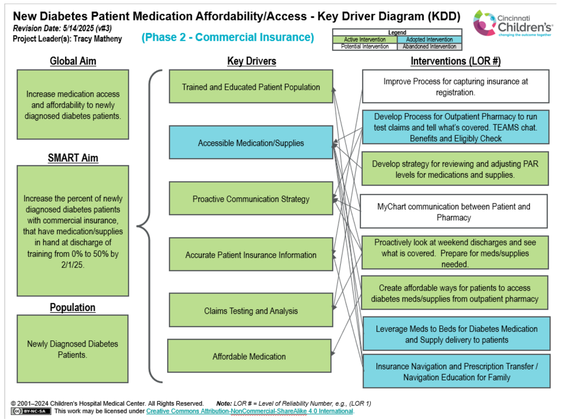
- Understanding and navigating prescription benefits is difficult for families at diabetes diagnosis.
- Patients without insurance or who are underinsured have a difficult time obtaining affordable diabetes prescriptions.
- The diabetes team spends significant time assisting families with identifying the most affordable prescription options.
- Families often must make 2-3 trips to neighborhood pharmacies to obtain all supplies after leaving the hospital.
- **Project Aim**: **To increase the percentage of patients newly diagnosed with diabetes who have medication/supplies in hand at discharge from 0% to…**
  - **75% for Medicaid and Uninsured Patients**
  - **50% for Commercially Insured Patients**

Methods

- **The project was conducted in 2 phases:**
  - **Phase 1 – Medicaid and Uninsured Patients**

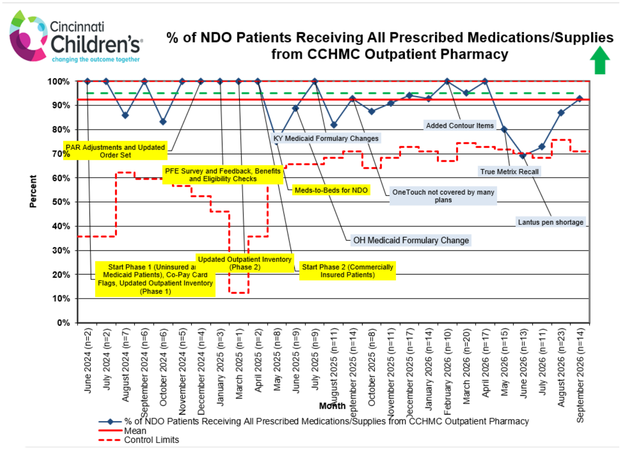


- **Phase 2 – Commercially insured Patients**



Results

- **An average of 92% of patients now leave the hospital with all the medications and supplies that they need at home.**



- Benefit and Eligibility checks help prescribers identify the lowest cost diabetes items on formulary.

Category	Sig and Qty (30ds)	High-Cost Limit	Brand Name *indicates coupon available	NDC	Covered? Cost?	Prior Auth CMM Key	Notes
Testing Strips *Check all 3 brands.*	SIG: Check BG up to 7 times daily (200/30d) Dispense: 200 each *Test strip brand MUST match meter brand*	Over $50	Accu-Chek Guide	65702-711-10	Accu-Chek strips covered. Patient charge $81.50		
			True Metrix	56151-1460-01	True Metrix is not covered. Patient charge $121.20		True Metrix is non-preferred
			One Touch Verio	53885-271-50	OneTouch is covered. Patient charge $173.50		

- The pharmacy applies discount cards to eligible medications.
- Uninsured patients meet with financial advocates who connect them to available financial resources before they leave the hospital.
- Patients can leave with medications in hand with no up front cost.
- Leaving the hospital with all their diabetes medications and supplies, keeps families from making multiple trips to a neighborhood pharmacy.
- Meds2Beds delivery service allows patients to get all their diabetes items before discharge.

Discussion

- Access has expanded in unintended ways. DKA and clinic patients are using the pharmacy to bridge medication gaps too.
- Families with transportation barriers or who speak English as a second language benefit from improved access as well.
- Real-time communication is a challenge as the team grows.
- Work is ongoing to determine how best to respond to new products entering the market, product recalls and shortages, formulary changes, and limits to pharmacy shelf space.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to Lindsay Brown, Jill Evans, Connor Handel, Kimberly Hausfeld, Shannon Johnson, Kyle Kaplan, Astrid Karn, Lisa Keehan-Hurt, Carrie Keneipp, Sarah Lawson, Pat McSweeney, John Myers, Amisha Patel, Amy Poetker, Tricia Purcell, Melissa Sawma, Kennedy Temke, Emily Vannatta, Justin Wilson and all of the members of the diabetes and pharmacy teams for their help and thoughtful feedback.