

## FLORIDA SOCIETY OF MEDICAL ASSISTANTS

### EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPORT: UPDATE ON DIABETES INITIATIVE--FINAL

- Beta testing has commenced to assure quality control of program and statistics. The students at IRSC have been helpful and cooperative.
- Dr. Errante Parrino revised and executed the Survey Monkey format for testing, demographic participant info and statistics that attach to the "Learning to Stop Diabetes" online program. Dr. EP also reviewed instructions and Power Point testing instructions to assure clear direction and contributed to appropriate "data collection" terms for participant information. Validity of project would not have been possible without her expert assistance.
- The statistical data will provide a tool for outcomes analysis and a logistics foundation for discussion of a defined role for medical assistants as a diabetes patient advocate.
- Program will be marketed next month to Florida Medical Assistants ONLY
- Future collaboration for national participation will be considered
- Conference Call participation took place this month with Healthcare Professions committee of FL DOH Diabetes Advisory Council. Dr. Shahady was introducing the potential for a role for medical assistants with the prestigious Council. A second conference call participation took place April 22 with the full Council and Dr. Shahady requested I address the group on the capabilities of medical assistant to participate in the multi level interventions.
- Certificates from the Diabetes University are distributed upon successful completion of post testing and a certificate of CEU achievement is also emailed to those sending notice to a specified email...
- The CEU online course will sit on the FSMA website, and will be the first of a learning series for Diabetes. It is anticipated that the next patient population management topic will be COPD.
- These training modules are constructed and presented in such a way as NOT to interfere with Chapter education programs and have a dual purpose of positioning the medical assistant as an added value to the healthcare team and also an adjunct for the mid level provider (future topic)
- The initial training modules will be offered "free", for the secondary gain of statistical data, however some of online adjunct courses will be at a nominal charge to assure that Chapter offerings are the primary focus for members.
- The Diabetes Initiative is anticipated to provide access and a common ground for interaction with other providers and persons of influence.