Barriers to Diabetes Technology in Low-Income Patients

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OBJECTIVE Identifying key barriers to accessing diabetes technologies for low-income/low-socioeconomic status (SES) patients on public insurance

BACKGROUND

Continuous glucose monitors (CGMs): Medical devices that continuously monitor an individual's blood sugar levels in real time

Cost of CGM $11,032 vs. Manual Testing $7,236 (annually)

CGMs Proven To Lower A1Cs By 1%

Low CGM Usage Rates in Low-SES Populations

Low SES Patients Have 3x Risk of Diabetes-Related Death

Low-Socioeconomic Status (SES) is a Risk Factor for poor T1D Management

METHODS

CMS Data Review | Comparison of CGM coverage under public insurance by states

CMS Data Review | Analysis of product coverage, state spending, and device costs

Literature Review | Review of current literature on type 1 diabetes and barriers of access in Clinicaltrials.gov

Literature Review | Keyword Search: Low-income, Low-SES, Minority, Health Literacy, Education, Insurance Type

RESULTS

Figure 2. Clinical Trial Keyword Search Results

CONCLUSIONS

- Lack of clinical trials examining barriers of access for low-SES type 1 diabetic patients
- Barriers include a lack of personal empowerment, access, and cost
- Need for increased efforts to help low-SES populations access these devices
- CGMs have the potential to increase health outcomes for low-SES populations while reducing state Medicaid programs costs

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