Diabetes Workgroup 4/13
Patient Story
• Alec Smith-Holt, 26, Male
• Died of ketoacidosis, 27 days after losing access to parent’s health insurance plan, a complication of Type 1 Diabetes
• The price of insulin at the time was $1,300

Washington Resources
Department of Health: 
Diabetes Epidemic Action Report

• Biannual report, developed by the DOH, DSHS, and HCA
• The report includes an overview of the issue, including the burden of disease, financial impact, and an overview of state programs
• The report offers several action steps for future work:
  • Including pharmacists on care teams
  • Support policies that compensate community health workers
  • Increase resources for monitoring and evaluating diabetes health status
  • Fund a study on barriers to care caused by out-of-pocket costs
  • Continue to fund existing initiatives that address social determinants of health
• Future versions of the report plan on including further information about social determinants and food/nutrition programs.
Health Care Authority: Insulin Workgroup

- Proposing policy solutions to the state legislature on the total cost of insulin to society:

  - Long-Term Policies:
    - Minnesota Example: Lower costs through manufacturer assistance programs.
    - Utah Example: Lower costs by expanding Public Health Employe Benefits (PHEB) to all Utah residents.

  - Short-Term (Emergency Supplies) Policies:
    - Maine Example: Require manufacturers to reimburse an emergency supply of insulin for 30-days if required.
    - Utah Example: Allow pharmacists to dispense emergency supply of insulin without requiring verification.

- Final report to be published July 2023
Topic Prioritization
Diabetes Care Continuum
Identify Individual’s Health Status (Complete A1C testing)

- **Healthy Metabolic State (A1C below 5.7%)**
- **Pre-Diabetes (A1C 5.7%-6.4%)**
- **Diabetes (A1C 6.5%-8.9%)**
- **Uncontrolled Diabetes (A1C 9.0%+)**

**Diagnosis of Type I, Type II, or Gestational Diabetes**

**Treatment Activities** (reactive)

**Prevention Activities** (proactive)