

FDA Websites Dedicated to Diabetes Care

Responding to the serious and growing epidemic of diabetes in the U.S., FDA launches two new websites for the public.

In 2002, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) launched 2 important websites with information for the general public on diabetes. In response to the nearly 17 million people with diabetes in the U.S., the FDA debuted the consumer-friendly websites to help individuals better manage their diabetes and live a healthy life. The websites feature up-to-date information on diabetes – from prevention tips, symptoms, and blood glucose control, to current treatment options and tools.

The FDA regulates most of the foods we eat and the medical products used in caring for diabetes, including glucose meters, insulin and diabetes medications. Their general information site on diabetes – www.fda.gov/diabetes – offers information on food and meal planning, diabetes equipment and medications, and additional references. This website can be accessed by going to the FDA main page at fda.gov and clicking on “Diabetes Information for Consumers” in the upper right hand corner.

The second website accompanies a nationwide campaign launched by Health and Human Service Secretary, Tommy Thompson, targeted at raising women’s awareness about diabetes. The “Take Time to Care About Diabetes” campaign and website – www.fda.gov/womens/taketimetocare/diabetes– promotes three key messages:

- Get tested for diabetes and check your blood sugar,
- Watch what you eat and get exercise,
- Use medicines wisely.

This website can be accessed by going again to the FDA home page. Once at the home page scroll down on the right hand side until you see the “Information For” section - click on “women”. Then click on “Take Time to Care”.

More than ½ of all diabetes occurs among women. Women are more likely to develop diabetes and its more serious complications than men, including heart disease and pregnancy problems. As the primary caregivers for the family, providing information to women can help the whole family.

The campaign, co-sponsored by the FDA, American Diabetes Association and the National Association of Chain Drug Stores, seeks to help women recognize the warning signs and learn that diabetes can be controlled through lifestyle and appropriate medical care.

References:

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