

Valley Medical Laboratories

Kelowna Diabetes Program



Dear Colleague:

The Kelowna Diabetes Program has been operating since January 2002. It has been very popular with both physicians and patients since inception, and has had a positive impact on self-management of diabetes for many participants.

The current operations of the program are as follows:

1. Twice per year (November and May) physicians are sent a list of potential new participants compiled from laboratory results over the previous 6 months identifying people likely to have diabetes, but not yet registered in the program. Searches are based on $A1C \geq 6.5\%$, $fbs \geq 7$, $rbs \geq 11.1$. Physician feedback is requested regarding whether each patient on the list is appropriate for the program.
 - a. If not, the patient is given a classification to avoid inclusion in future runs of this list.
 - b. If yes, the patient is sent an information sheet and an invitation to attend the laboratory and join the program
 - c. Unless specified otherwise the registered patient will be given a standing order for:
A1C -----every 3 months
Urine Albumin/Creatinine Ratio -----annually
Creatinine-----annually
Lipids (fasting optional) -----annually (Apo-B may be requested in place of Lipid panel)
Verification of glucometer accuracy---annually
 - d. Patients are given a reminder card at each laboratory visit letting them know when they are due next and what tests will be done.
2. Each month physicians will be sent a list of any of their registered patients who are late for scheduled testing.
 - a. More than 4 months or more than 6 months since last test: Physicians are requested to remind these patients to go to the lab, or notify us if the patient is to be reclassified. (ie: moved away, deceased, not willing to participate, unable to participate for medical reasons)
 - b. More than 1 year since last test: We will reclassify as unwilling to participate. Physicians are requested to notify us of other reasons for reclassification as in 2.a. or that the patient should be sent a new invitation to participate.
3. Once per year in (November) we will send a list to each physician of their patients who are registered and participating and those who are registered but not participating. Physicians are requested to notify us whether each patient should: continue in the program, be reclassified or re-invited as in 2. a/b. Not checking the 'Change Status' box constitutes a renewal of the standing order.
4. Occasionally physicians may wish to register a new patient who has not yet been identified by the laboratory searches. They may use the Diabetes Standing Order Request Form available on our website.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the Kelowna Diabetes Program please contact me or one of my staff.

Yours truly,

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