



American College of Preventive Medicine  
physicians dedicated to prevention

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **American College of Preventive Medicine Applauds Medicare Expansion as International Community Celebrates World Diabetes Day**

*Beneficiaries to Gain Access to Diabetes Prevention Program*

**November 14, 2016 (Washington, D.C.)** - On **World Diabetes Day** the American College of Preventive Medicine (ACPM), the leading professional association for physicians dedicated to prevention, praises the announcement by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) that it will expand coverage of the Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) model to patients at risk of developing type 2 diabetes. The expansion will ensure at-risk seniors and people with disabilities have access to an evidence-based DPP that can help lower their risk factors and prevent or delay progression to type 2 diabetes.

Beginning January 1, 2018, the rule will expand the DPP model test to eligible beneficiaries. The model is the first to be adopted by CMS that will reach all eligible beneficiaries. The expansion will allow suppliers to enroll in Medicare, as well as submit claims to furnish services. “The new benefit allows patients to access preventive diabetes services without being subject to co-payments; while providing physicians additional payments for furnishing preventive services to eligible beneficiaries,” stated ACPM Executive Director Mike Barry. “ACPM commends CMS for its responsiveness to our [recommendations](#) submitted on the initial proposed rule.”

ACPM also offers the [Lifestyle Medicine Core Competency Online Program](#) jointly with the American College of Lifestyle Medicine. This educational offering specifically includes modules on prediabetes, diabetes, and how to use evidence-based therapeutic techniques to prevent, treat, and reverse lifestyle-related chronic diseases. Through this curriculum and other lifestyle medicine activities, ACPM will continue to play a critical role in educating physicians about the NDPP and increasing overall patient referrals.

### **About NDPP**

The [NDPP](#) is a year-long lifestyle change program developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The effectiveness of this program—buoyed by insurance providers’ potential coverage and physicians’ understanding when to refer patients to local CDC-recognized providers—could prove critical for the 86 million Americans who have prediabetes and the approximately 15-30% of them who will develop type 2 diabetes in the next five years.

### **About ACPM**

[The American College of Preventive Medicine](#) is a professional society providing leadership in research, professional education, development of public policy, and enhancement of standards of preventive medicine for and on behalf of its physician members. Uniquely trained in both clinical medicine and public health, preventive medicine specialists are equipped to understand and reduce the risks of disease, disability, and death in individuals and population groups. ACPM provides updates on lifestyle medicine news, events, and education opportunities through its Lifestyle Medicine newsletter.

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