

# **DSMES: An essential service for improved outcomes**

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wait....what happened to AADE?

## We Are Now **ADCES**

Creating value for members,  
people with diabetes and  
the entire care team.



# Objectives

## GOAL

Increase the number of people with diabetes who benefit from diabetes self-management education and support (DSMES) in rural health centers across Louisiana

At the end of this presentation, you'll be able to:

- Recognize the value of accredited & recognized DSMES programs and when and how to refer.
- Describe how DSMES improves clinical and behavioral outcomes
- Discuss how accredited and recognized programs address social determinants of health and other individualized needs.
- Describe the value and ROI of DSMES in the rural health setting
- Explain how DSMES advances the quadruple aim for rural health centers



# What is DSMES?

Diabetes self-management education and support is the ongoing process of facilitating the knowledge, skills, and ability necessary for diabetes self-care as well as activities that assist a person in implementing and sustaining the behaviors needed to manage his or her condition on an ongoing basis, beyond or outside of formal self-management training.



2020

# DSMES

## CONSENSUS REPORT



## Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support in Adults with Type 2 Diabetes: A Consensus Report

Published Online June 2020  
To access the report visit  
[DiabetesEducator.org/ConsensusReport](https://DiabetesEducator.org/ConsensusReport)

A joint report from:

American Diabetes Association

Association of Diabetes Care & Education Specialists

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

American Academy of Family Physicians

American Academy of PAs

American Association of Nurse Practitioners

American Pharmacist Association



Each patient carries his own doctor inside him. They come to us knowing that truth. We are at our best when we give the doctor who resides in each patient, a chance to work.

-- **Albert Schweitzer, MD**



There are four critical times to provide and modify diabetes self-management education and support.

-- **2020 DSMES Consensus Report**



Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

-- **Nelson Mandela**



All people with diabetes should participate in diabetes self-management education and receive the support needed to facilitate the knowledge decision-making and skills mastery necessary for diabetes self-care.

-- **ADA Standards of Medical Care 2020**

# DSMES is underutilized

## THE SITUATION

Diabetes epidemic <sup>1</sup>  
Diabetes is expensive <sup>2</sup>  
Target goals not being met <sup>3</sup>  
DSMES not utilized per Standards  
of Care <sup>4,5</sup>

## CALL TO ACTION<sup>6</sup>

Communicate benefits of DSMES  
Engage stakeholders  
Address barriers to DSMES  
Make patient-centered care a priority

## How does DSMES support this call to action?

DSMES improves health outcomes, quality of life, and is cost effective.

**Yet ... it is underutilized. This can change.**

1. Lin J, et al. Population Health Metrics, 2018  
2. ADA. Diabetes Care, 2018  
3. Kazemian P, et al. JAMA Internal Medicine, 2019

4. ADA. Standards of Medical Care, Diabetes Care, 2020  
5. Strawbridge LM, et al. Health Educator, 2015  
6. Powers MA, Bardsley JK, et al. DSMES Consensus Report, The Diabetes Educator, 2020



# DSMES is underutilized

**ONLY**



Of **MEDICARE** beneficiaries with newly diagnosed diabetes used DSMT services<sup>1</sup>

**ONLY**



Of individuals with newly diagnosed T2D with **PRIVATE HEALTH** insurance received DSMES within 12 months of diagnosis<sup>2</sup>

1. Li R, et al. Morbidity Mortality Weekly Report, 2014  
2. Strawbridge LM, et al. Health Educator, 2015

# DSMES benefits

## Summary of DSMES benefits to discuss with people with diabetes

- Provides critical education and support for implementing treatment plans.
- Reduces emergency department visits, hospital admissions and hospital readmissions.
- Reduces hypoglycemia.
- Reduces all-cause mortality.
- Lowers A1C.
- Promotes lifestyle behaviors including healthful meal planning and engagement in regular physical activity.
- Addresses weight maintenance or loss.
- Enhances self-efficacy and empowerment.
- Increases healthy coping.
- Decreases diabetes-related distress.
- Improves quality of life.

**No negative side effects | Medicare and most insurers cover the costs**

# If DSMES were a pill, would you prescribe it?

## Comparing the benefits of DSMES/MNT vs metformin therapy

CRITERIA	Benefits rating	
	DSMES/MNT	METFORMIN
Efficacy	High	High
Hypoglycemia risk	Low	Low
Weight	Neutral/Loss	Neutral/Loss
Side effects	None	Gastrointestinal
Cost	Low/Savings	Low
Psychosocial benefits*	High	N/A

N/A, not applicable. \*Psychosocial benefits include *improvements to* quality of life, self-efficacy, empowerment, healthy coping, knowledge, self-care behaviors, meal planning, healthier food choices, more activity, use of glucose monitoring, lower blood pressure and lipids and *reductions in* problems in managing diabetes, diabetes distress, and the risk of long-term complications (and prevention of acute complications).

# If DSMES were a pill, would you prescribe it?



## Prescribe DSMES

### Diabetes Services Order Form (DSMT and MNT Services)

\*Indicates required information for Medicare order

#### PATIENT INFORMATION

Patient's Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Medicare HICN # \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_ Female

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Other Contact Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Diabetes self-management training (DSMT) and medical nutrition therapy (MNT) are individual and complementary services to improve diabetes care. For Medicare beneficiaries, both services can be ordered in the same year. Research indicates MNT combined with DSMT improves outcomes.

#### DIABETES SELF-MANAGEMENT TRAINING (DSMT)

Medicare: 10 hours initial DSMT in 12-month period, plus 2 hours follow-up DSMT annually

\*Check type of training services and number of hours requested:

- Initial group DSMT:  10 hours or \_\_\_\_ no. hrs. requested  
 Follow-up DSMT:  2 hours or \_\_\_\_ no. hrs. requested  
 Additional insulin training: \_\_\_\_ no. hrs. requested

#### \* Patients with special needs requiring Individual DSMT

Check all special needs that apply:

- Vision  Hearing  Physical  Cognitive Impairment  
 Language Limitations  Other \_\_\_\_\_

#### \* DSMT Content

- All ten content areas, as appropriate  
 Monitoring diabetes  Diabetes as disease process  
 Psychological adjustment  Physical activity  
 Nutritional management  Goal setting, problem solving  
 Medications  Prevent, detect and treat acute complications  
 Preconception/pregnancy management or gestational diabetes management  Prevent, detect and treat chronic complications

#### MEDICAL NUTRITION THERAPY (MNT)

Medicare: 3 hours initial MNT in the first calendar year, plus two hours follow-up MNT annually. Additional MNT hours available for change in medical condition, treatment and/or diagnosis.

\* Check the type of MNT and/or number of additional hours requested:

- Initial MNT  Annual follow-up MNT  
 Additional MNT services in the same calendar year, per RD recommendations \_\_\_\_ no. additional hrs. requested

Please specify change in medical condition, treatment and/or diagnosis:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

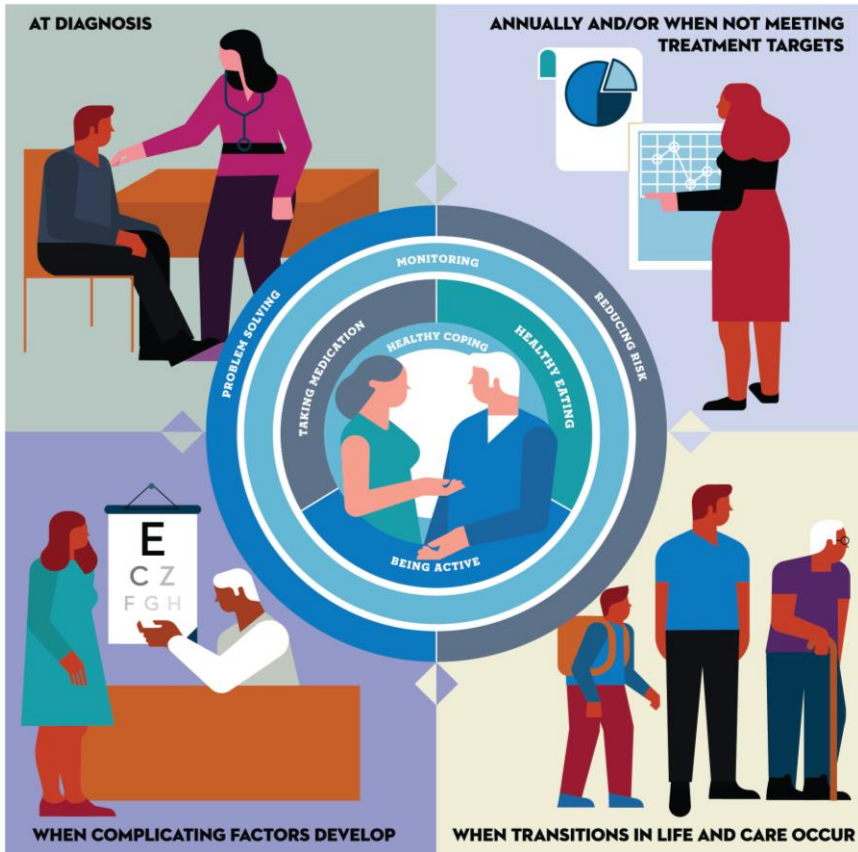
#### CURRENT DIABETES MEDICATIONS

Specify type, dose and frequency

Oral: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Insulin: \_\_\_\_\_

DSMES requires a referral

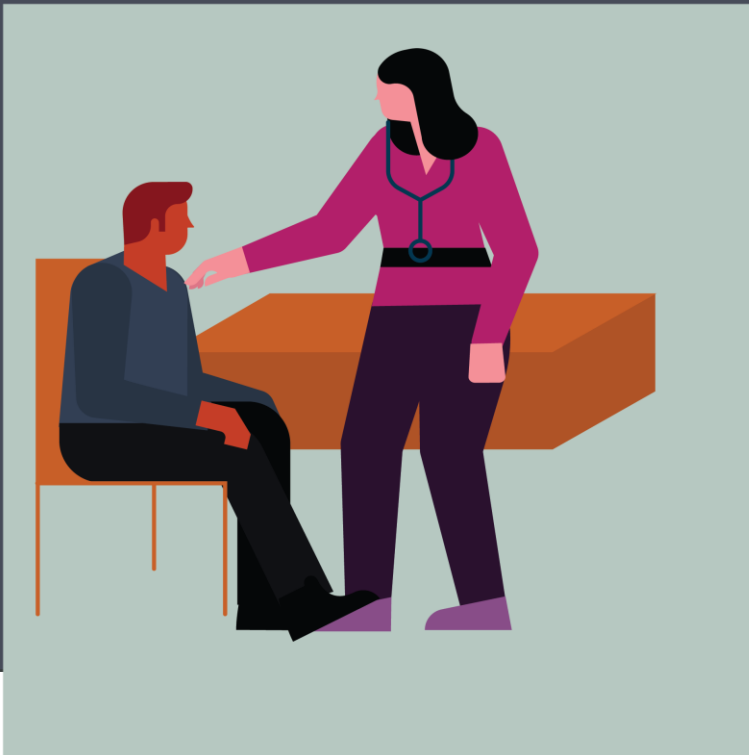
# Four critical times to provide and modify DSMES



- 1) At diagnosis.
- 2) Annually and/or when not meeting treatment targets.
- 3) When complicating factors develop.
- 4) When transitions in life and care occur.

# Factors that indicate referral to DSMES services

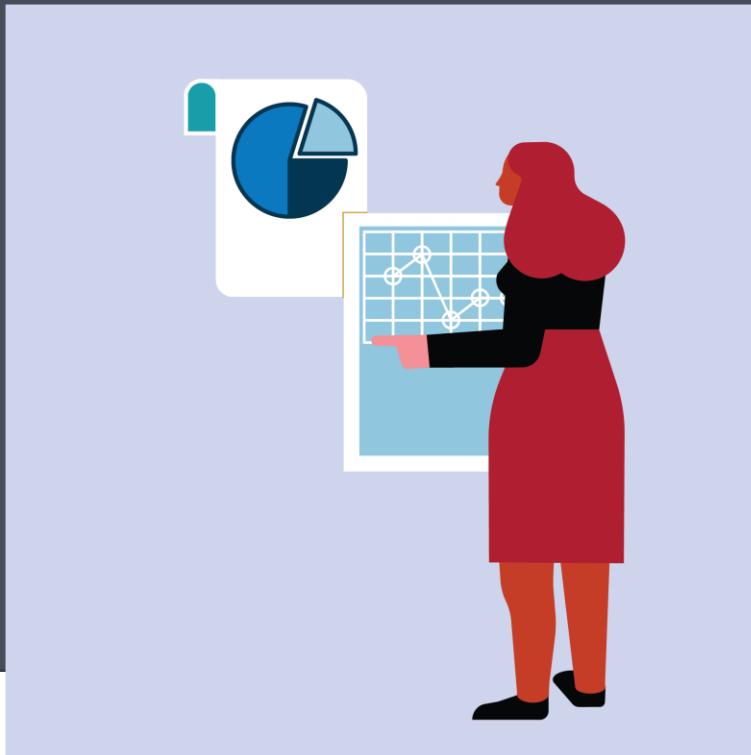
## At diagnosis



- All newly diagnosed.
- Ensure that both nutrition and emotional health are addressed or make separate referrals.

# Factors that indicate referral to DSMES services

## Annually and/or when not meeting treatment targets



- When knowledge and skills need to be assessed.
- Long-standing diabetes with limited prior education.
- Treatment ineffective.
- Change in medication, activity, or nutritional intake or preferences.
- Maintenance of positive clinical and quality of life outcomes.
- Unexplained or frequent hypo- or hyperglycemia.
- When psychosocial and behavioral support is needed.

# Factors that indicate referral to DSMES services

## When complicating factors develop



### Change in:

- Health conditions or health status requiring changes in nutrition, physical activity, or medication.
- Physical limitations.
- Emotional well-being.
- Basic living needs.
- Planning pregnancy or pregnant.



# Factors that indicate referral to DSMES services

## When transitions in life and care occur



- Change in living situation.
- Discharge from inpatient to outpatient.
- New clinical care team.
- Initiation or intensification of medication, devices or technology.
- Insurance coverage changes.
- Age-related changes.

# What needs to be done at the four critical times?

- Checklist available in DSMES consensus report.
- Provides content guidance for each critical time.
- Shows key points for provider's team versus DSMES team.

# Evidence for greatest impact of DSMES

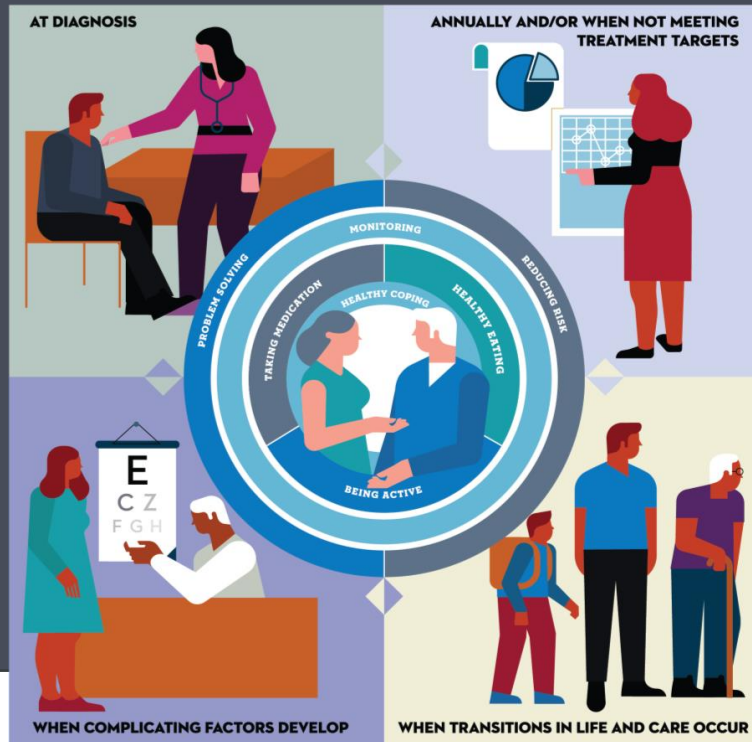
Engaging adults with type 2 diabetes in DSMES results in statistically significant and clinically meaningful improvements in A1C. The greatest improvements are achieved when DSMES:

- Involves both group and individual education.
- Is provided by a team vs a single individual.
- Participants attend more than 10 hours.
- Is tailored to the individual participant.
- Is focused on behaviors and engages the participant rather than didactic interventions.



# DSMES consensus report recommendations

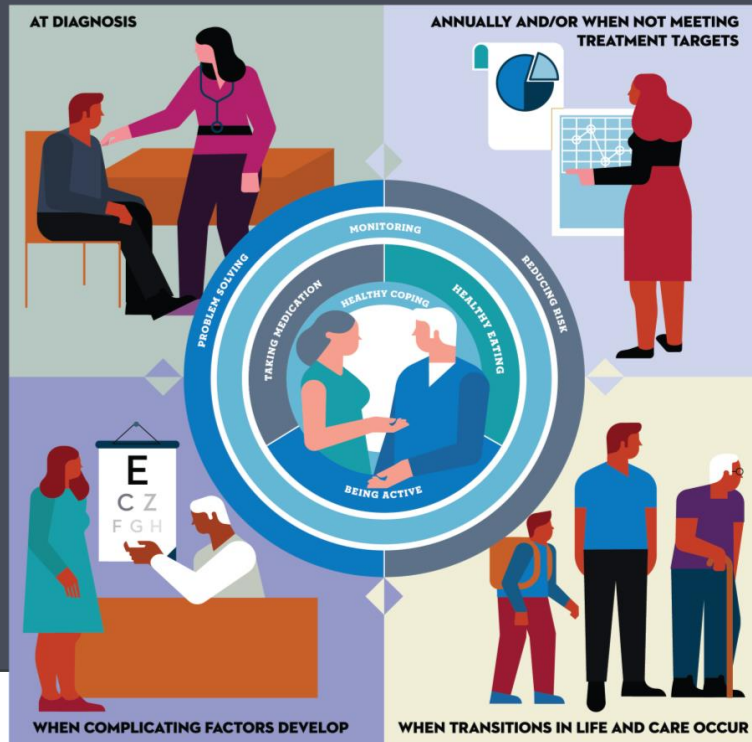
## Recommendations: for providers



- Discuss with all persons with diabetes the benefits and value of initial and ongoing DSMES.
- Initiate referral to and facilitate participation in DSMES at the 4 critical times: (1) at diagnosis, (2) annually and/or when not meeting treatment targets, (3) when complicating factors develop, and (4) when transitions in life and care occur.
- Ensure coordination of the medical nutrition therapy plan with the overall management strategy, including the DSMES plan, medications and physical activity on an ongoing basis.
- Identify and address barriers affecting participation with DSMES services following referral.

# DSMES consensus report recommendations

## Recommendations for: health policy, payers, systems, providers, care teams



- Expand awareness, access, and utilization of innovative and non-traditional DSMES services.
- Identify and address barriers influencing providers influencing referrals to DSMES services.
- Facilitate reimbursement processes and other means of financial support in consideration of cost savings related to the benefits of DSMES services.

# AADE 7<sup>TM</sup> Self-Care Behaviors

- Healthy Eating
- Being Active
- Monitoring
- Taking Medication
- Problem Solving
- Healthy Coping
- Reducing Risks



# 2017 National Standards for DSMES

- The Standards define timely, evidence-based DSMES services *to ensure wide application and quality*
- The Standards are designed to define **quality** DSMES and assist those who provide DSMES services
- Provide evidence as a tool for payers reviewing DSMES reimbursement and consider change to align with their beneficiaries' preferences and lives.

## 2017 National Standards for Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support

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The corrections are noted in the Erratum associated with this article.

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national  
standards

# History of the Acronyms

- DSMT – Billing for Medicare
- DSME
- DSME/T
- DSMS
- DSME/S
- DSMES – Currently in use



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# History of the National Standards

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- 1984: Developed and Published The National Standards for Diabetes Self Management Education –Revisions: 1995, 2000, 2007, 2012 and 2017
- National Accrediting Organization (NAO)
  - AADE in 2009
  - ADA in 1986
- 1987 – First recognized program utilizing the Standards
- 1997 – Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) began reimbursing for DSME in 1997

# DSMES Accredited Programs

Understand the communities they serve

- Languages Spoken
- Cultural Influences
- Low vision
- Hearing impaired
- Disabled
- Low literacy
- SDOH
- Transportation needs





# DSMES Accredited Programs meet and maintain the national standards

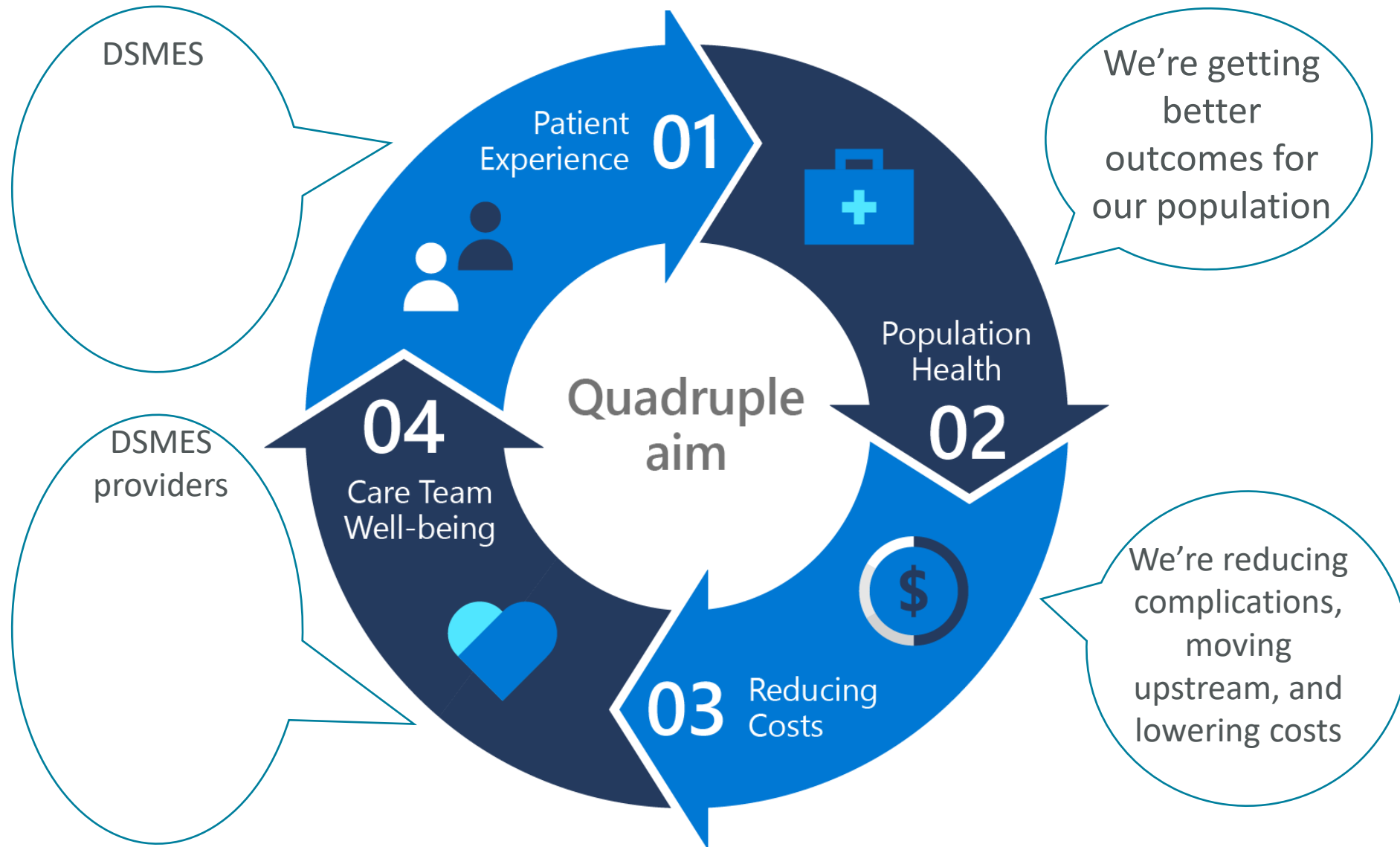
- ✓ Individualized diabetes specific assessment to determine skills necessary to live well and thrive with diabetes.
- ✓ Education and training plan based on participants goals, questions, needs and availability for visits.
- ✓ All plans and goals developed collaboratively with participant and dces
- ✓ Expanded access including individual visits, group classes, support groups, community resource connectors.
- ✓ Annual reporting to confirm adherence to national standards
- ✓ Audits to ensure maintenance of the highest quality DSMES

# DSMES Accredited Programs take action to overcome access related issues:

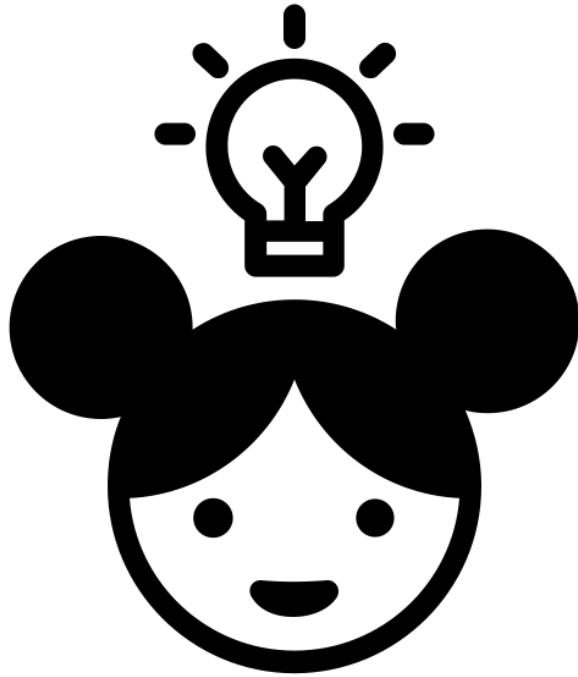
- Socioeconomic
- Cultural
- Schedules
- Transportation
- No insurance or high deductible insurance
- Perceived lack of need



# The quadruple aim



# Remember...

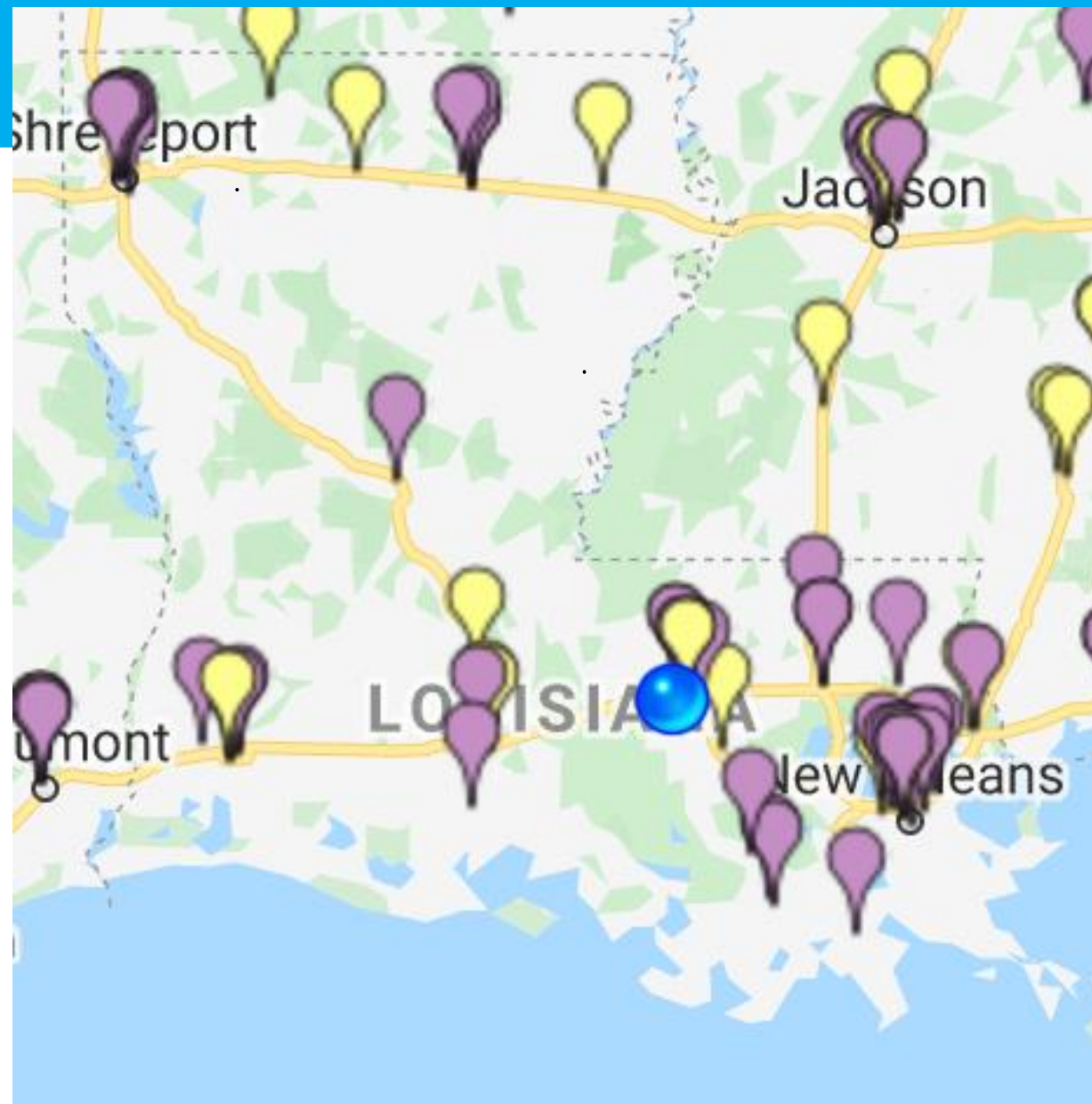


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from Noun Project

## DPP and DSMES have a value BEYOND reimbursement...

- Reduce unscheduled visits, specialist visits, ED encounters
- Increase revenue to other services (e.g. labs, preventive care referrals, behavioral health)
- Help achieve pay for performance metrics
- Connect patients to your center as a medical home
- Support population health and health equity outcomes

# DSMES in Louisiana



# Need for DSMES in Rural Health Centers

- 17% higher prevalence of diabetes in rural versus urban areas\*\*
- CDC researchers found that 62% of nonmetropolitan counties do not have a DSMES program.\*\*
- The National Quality Forum (NQF) established a workgroup



\*\*<https://www.cdc.gov/ruralhealth/docs/RH-Policy-Brief-Diabetes-H.pdf>



# Rural Health Centers and Quality Measures

“NQF convenes the statutorily mandated Measure Applications Partnership (MAP) as a public-private partnership of healthcare stakeholders.

MAP provides input to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on the selection of performance measures for public reporting and performance-based payment programs.

MAP also helps to identify gaps in measure development and encourages measure alignment across public and private programs, settings, levels of analysis, and populations.

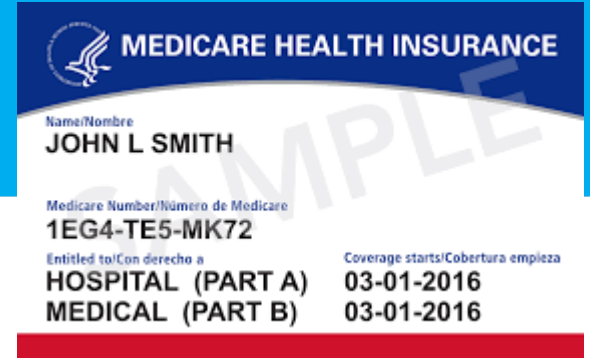
In 2017, recognizing the lack of representation from rural stakeholders in the pre-rulemaking process, CMS tasked the National Quality Forum (NQF) to establish a MAP Rural Health Workgroup”

# DSMES can impact diabetes and cardiometabolic outcomes!



“Diabetes, hypertension, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). The Workgroup recognized these chronic conditions as highly prevalent in rural areas, requiring high levels of healthcare utilization and contributing to high costs of care for rural residents.”

# DSMT for Medicare Beneficiaries in RHC's



10 hours of initial training (once under Medicare)

2 hours of follow-up available annually starting year 2 (with referral)

Rural Health Centers (RHCs): add 1:1 DSMT visits via G0108 to the RHC Cost Report

- RHC's are paid through an All-Inclusive Rate (AIR).
- DSMT visits have the potential to increase the center's all-inclusive rate if is not already capped.
- Services such as DSMES/DSMT, outside of the usual scope of RHC's are added to the cost report which is required for costs that are non RHC/FQHC daily services and for things like space, supplies, personnel, and overhead.

# FQHCs and RHCs: Covid-19 Telehealth

Prior to Covid-19, the only telehealth services reimbursable to FQHCs and RHCs were the “originating site” charges. This means they set up the patient in a room with screen where they could interact via videoconference with a provider from a “distant site”.



All providers from FQHCs and RHCs have been excluded from Medicare reimbursement for telehealth services.



The Cares Act, passed on March 27, expanded telehealth for FQHCs and RHCs during the Covid-19 PHE. CMS provided updated guidance on April 17.

# CARES Act and DSMT via telehealth in the RHC

- FQHCs/RHCs: DSMT visits can be billed (using G0108) for telehealth during the PHE.
- Telehealth services can be provided by any healthcare practitioner working for the RHC or the FQHC within their scope of practice.
- For telehealth services furnished between July 1, 2020 and the end of the COVID-19, PHE, RHCs and FQHCs will use an RHC/FQHC specific G code (G2025) to identify services that were furnished via telehealth
- RHC and FQHC claims with the new G code will be paid at the \$92 rate.

# Summary

- There are many evidence-based benefits of DSMES. Of note are the many psychosocial benefits and behavioral improvements.
- DSMES is grossly underutilized.
- The DSMES consensus report:
  - Describes the 4 critical times to provide and modify DSMES.
  - Provides clear guidance as to when to refer to DSMES services.
  - Includes a checklist for providers and diabetes care and education specialists providing and modifying DSMES services.
- Health systems and providers should mobilize to ensure all people with type 2 diabetes have easy access to DSMES, including nutrition, physical and emotional health support.
  - Consider automatic referrals for DSMT and MNT; opt-out versus opt-in.

To access the DSMES  
consensus report and related  
resources visit:

[DiabetesEducator.org/ConsensusReport](https://DiabetesEducator.org/ConsensusReport)



Questions?



# THANK YOU