



AAFP PARTNER SUMMIT

Thanks to you, our partners, for attending the **AAFP Diabetes Partner Summit** on Friday, April 21st at Academy Headquarters.

Meeting with you, hearing from members on the frontlines, and sharing some of the work we've already accomplished is key to our goal of improving diabetes care. AAFP values the dialogue with companies working to help get diabetic and pre-diabetic patients well. As leaders in your organizations, you have the vision, the knowledge and the expertise to help pave a better future. We could not accomplish what we do without your support and voice.

At the summit, we heard from AAFP members about the challenges and opportunities presented in this sector. **Dr. Kathleen Eubanks-Meng, MD** and **Dr. Afsheen Patel, MD**, described the challenges in treating diabetic patients. **Dr. Julie Wood, MD, MPH, FAAFP**, Senior Vice President, Health of the Public & Interprofessional Activities, moderated the panel.

Major themes of the discussion included the lack of available endocrinologists (with increasing numbers of diabetic patients cared for by family physicians), the challenge of educating the patient at her level – over the course of multiple visits, and finding resources to provide high-quality care for uninsured patients.

Drs. Eubanks-Meng and Patel spoke plainly about what is needed from the Academy for this frontline fight: **more education**, including up-to-date **information about new therapies** as they come to market, and resources to help them have **productive interactions with their patients**. Finally, they asked our support in helping them navigate the increasingly complex business side of medicine – ensuring that they can continue to spend time with their patients.

Kevin Kovach, DrPH(c), MSc, Population Health Manager, Health of the Public, Science & Interprofessional Activities, presented on the AAFP's new [Center for Diversity and Health Equity](#), which will address diversity and social determinants of health and strive for health equity. You will hear more about this exciting new initiative as it develops in the coming year.

One of the most insightful parts of the day was a collaborative exercise in which attendees held focused discussions and idea generation around **Access and Payment Challenges, Workflow, Matching Patients with Resources, and Delivering Appropriate Therapies.**

“The perspectives and comments shared by AAFP staff and Drs. Eubanks-Meng and Patel were extremely enlightening.”

—Partner feedback

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AAFP Staff worked through the teams' ideas and we've identified some high priority projects where synergies exist for partnership. We ask for your support and collaboration to implement the following:



“Meeting and interacting with such a great group of people—all leaders in their fields and passionate about chronic health. It was also really valuable to learn more about AAFP.”

—Partner Feedback

1) Access and Payment Challenges:

- Providing resources to large employers about the patient impact of formulary changes. This could be executed both as an online tool and printed piece.
- Engage with national and regional business groups like National Alliance for Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions (National Alliance)
- Provide continued education and support to physicians navigating MACRA

2) Workflow:

- Adapt online [Office Champions immunizations model](#) for diabetes
- Use online team-based education to share best practices in diabetes with everyone in the office
- Disseminate best practices at regionally and state-targeted live meetings produced through state chapter grants. Develop curriculum based on practice type.

“I want to remain involved in the future through collaborative efforts.”

—Partner Feedback

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3) Matching Patients with Resources:

- Collaborate with industry and other organizations to identify an ideal set of patient education resources already in the field, geared for treatment of diabetes in primary care and in a team-based setting
- Provide new patient and caregiver tools through AAFP.org and FamilyDoctor.org
- AAFP will reach out to reinvigorate conversations with ADA (American Diabetes Association), AADE (American Association of Diabetes Educators), NDEP (National Diabetes Education Program), the CDC and its foundation, and AND (Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics)

4) Delivering Appropriate Therapies:

- Continue providing high quality and up-to-date CME
- Provide easily digestible targeted information for patients and physicians on key topics in diabetes care such as disease progression, managing comorbidities, diagnosis, transition to injections, self-management and tracking
- Create an advanced clinician training course for the care team, similar to the AAFP's [ALSO program](#)

We are requesting support of these kinds of initiatives. Your AAFP contact will follow up with you soon to discuss these collaboration opportunities and the many others that were identified during the Summit.

[Click here](#) for all the documents from this meeting and additional resources on AAFP diabetes activities, including short video clips from a session on diabetes care offered to AAFP employees by physician leadership and staff.

We look forward to continued conversation on this important topic. Again, your commitment to our work together in diabetes care is critical to our success. Thank you.

Let's Continue the Conversation:

- Our next Summit will take place on **December, 2017**, with a focus on **geriatric care**.
- Please send additional feedback and questions to your liaison in Strategic Partnerships
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"I liked the passion, brainstorming and rich discussions at the Summit."

—Partner Feedback