

DMP for diabetes type 2: Current guidelines indicate some need for revision

January 3 2012

On 3 January 2012, the German Institute for Quality and Efficiency in Health Care (IQWiG) published the results of a literature search for evidence-based clinical practice guidelines on the treatment of people with diabetes mellitus type 2. The aim of the report is to identify those recommendations from current guidelines of high methodological quality that may be relevant for the planned revision of the corresponding disease management programme (DMP). According to the results of the report, there is no compelling need for revision of any part of the DMP. However, IQWiG identified various aspects that could be supplemented and specified.

Evidence was documented in detail

One of the responsibilities of IQWiG specified by law (Social Code Book V) is to develop and issue [recommendations](#) for DMPs. In the commission now completed, which was awarded by the Federal Joint Committee (G-BA), IQWiG systematically searched for new guidelines, assessed their methodological quality, and extracted relevant recommendations on the diagnosis and treatment of [diabetes mellitus type 2](#), its accompanying diseases and late complications, as well as on the cooperation of health care sectors. In addition, the Institute documented how highly the guideline authors graded the robustness of the recommendations. However, the sources of the recommendations were not examined again; this is where IQWiG's guideline appraisals and benefit assessments differ.

No contradictions between the DMP and current recommendations

A total of 35 German and international guidelines containing recommendations on the treatment of [diabetes type 2](#) were included. As the analysis showed, the recommendations are, by and large, consistent with the specifications of the DMP. No contradictions in content concerning the DMP requirements were found. The Director of IQWiG, Professor Dr med. Jürgen Windeler, stresses that "patients with [diabetes mellitus type 2](#) can thus be sure that the current DMP is consistent with the current status of medical knowledge on all main points."

Some potential additional recommendations identified for the DMP

However, in these guidelines, recommendations were found on a total of 8 subject areas where, after examination and discussion, the need was identified to update and supplement the German DMP for diabetes mellitus type 2, or at least to discuss such measures.

For example, some guidelines recommend additional medication. Among other things, this applies to the topical use of isosorbide dinitrate and capsaicin spray for treatment of painful diabetic neuropathy. For the prevention and treatment of diabetic foot syndrome, [guidelines](#) recommend examining the condition of the blood vessels by means of the ankle-arm index.

It is first of all the Institute's responsibility to identify differences between guideline recommendations and the DMP. The Federal Joint Committee then examines whether these differences should actually lead to a revision of the DMP for diabetes mellitus type 2.

Provided by Institute for Quality and Efficiency in Health Care

Citation: DMP for diabetes type 2: Current guidelines indicate some need for revision (2012, January 3) retrieved 26 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2012-01-dmp-diabetes-current-guidelines.html>

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