



## **IDF comments to the second draft of the WHO Appendix 3 of the Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases 2013-2030 (August 2022)**

The [International Diabetes Federation](https://www.idf.org) is an umbrella organisation of 243 national diabetes associations from 160 countries, whose mission is to promote diabetes care, prevention, and a cure worldwide. It represents the interests of the over 537 million people living with diabetes and the millions more at risk of developing it.

IDF welcomes the second draft of the updated Appendix 3 of the WHO Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs) 2013-2030 and thanks WHO for its work on it.

On its comments to the first draft of the updated Appendix 3, IDF expressed its concern about the removal from **Objective 4 on diabetes** of the following two interventions, which have evident benefits for people living with diabetes:

- Influenza vaccination for patients with diabetes: epidemiological studies suggest that people with diabetes (in particular those with end organ complications of cardiac and renal disease) are at high risk of complications, hospitalisation and death from influenza and pneumococcal disease. According to multiple observational studies, influenza immunization intervention is low risk, low cost and have a moderate to substantial impact on the care of people with diabetes. Clinical narrative and case-control studies support the fact that vaccination against influenza is effective to reduce hospital admissions of people with diabetes during influenza epidemics.<sup>1, 2, 3</sup>
- Preconception care among women of reproductive age who have diabetes, included patient education and intensive glucose management: all women of reproductive age should receive preconception care, but this care is vital in women living with diabetes or with risk factors for gestational diabetes mellitus.<sup>4</sup> Preconception care is an important factor in alleviating gestational complications in women with diabetes.<sup>5</sup> A major goal of preconception care for women with diabetes is to reduce the risk of diabetes-related complications by obtaining the lowest possible glycated haemoglobin (HbA1C) without significant episodes of hypoglycaemia.<sup>6</sup> Gestational diabetes mellitus is associated with multiple adverse pregnancy outcomes, and women who develop it are at subsequent high risk of type 2 diabetes, especially three to six years after delivery.<sup>7</sup>

IDF thanks WHO for clarifying that these interventions have been removed from the Appendix 3 because they are not derived from existing WHO disease management guidelines.

**IDF kindly requests WHO to consider the inclusion of the removed interventions in relevant guidelines, and to assess the possibility of a cost-effective analysis that would allow considering the inclusion of these interventions in future updates of Appendix 3.**

---

<sup>1</sup> Smith SA, Poland GA: The use of influenza and pneumococcal vaccines in people with diabetes. *Diabetes Care* 23: 95-108, 2000

<sup>2</sup> Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP): Prevention and control of influenza: recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). *MMWR* 46 (No. RR-9):1-25, 1997)

<sup>3</sup> American Diabetes Association, Immunization and the Prevention of Influenza and Pneumococcal Disease in People With Diabetes, Position statement *Diabetes Care* 2003;26(suppl\_1):s126-s128. <https://doi.org/10.2337/diacare.26.2007.S126>

<sup>4</sup> Kachoria R and Oza-Frank R. Receipt of preconception care among women with prepregnancy and gestational diabetes. *Diabet Med.* 2014 Dec;(31(12):1690-5. doi: 10.1111/dme.12546. Epub 2014 Jul 23

<sup>5</sup> Nekuei N et al Preconception care in diabetic women *J Educ Health Promot* 2015; 4:8. Published online 2015 Feb 23. doi: 10.4103/2277-9531.151891

<sup>6</sup> American Diabetes Association. Preconception care of women with diabetes. *Diabetes Care* 2003;26: 91S-3S.

<sup>7</sup> IDF Diabetes Atlas, 9th edn. Brussels, Belgium: International Diabetes Federation, 2019