

The following guideline applies to patients with type 1 and type 2 diabetes mellitus. It recommends specific interventions for periodic medical assessment, laboratory tests and education to guide effective patient self-management.

Eligible Population	Key Components	Recommendation and Level of Evidence	Frequency
Patients 18-75 years of age with type 1 or type 2 diabetes mellitus	Periodic assessment	Height, weight, BMI, blood pressure [A] Cardiovascular risks (tobacco use, hypertension, dyslipidemia, sedentary lifestyle, obesity, stress, family history, age > 40) Barriers to lifestyle and medication adherence Comprehensive foot exam (inspection, monofilament, and pulses) [B] Psychosocial evaluation and screen for depression [D] Dilated eye exam by ophthalmologist or optometrist [B], or if no prior retinopathy, may screen with fundal photography [B]	Perform periodic assessment at least annually Record BP at every visit In the absence of retinopathy repeat retinal eye exam in 2 years
	Laboratory tests	HbA1c every 3-6 months based on individualized therapeutic goal [D] Urine microalbumin measurement [B], test annually Serum creatinine and calculated GFR [D], test annually Lipid profile for estimating initial risk and assessing adherence to therapy [B], preferably fasting Consider TSH testing in patients with type 1 diabetes mellitus and LFTs [D]	
	Education, counseling and risk factor modification	Comprehensive diabetes self-management education and support (DSME and DSMS) from a collaborative team or diabetic educator if available Education should be individualized, based on the National Standards for DSME ¹ [B] and include: Importance of regular physical activity including interrupting sedentary periods at least every 90 minutes with physical activity, and a healthy diet [A], and working towards an appropriate BMI Assessment of patient knowledge, attitudes, self-management skills and health status; strategies for making health behavior changes and addressing psychosocial concerns [C] Description of diabetes disease process and treatment; safe and effective use of medications; prevention, detection and treatment of acute and chronic complications, including prevention, recognition, and treatment of hypoglycemia Role of self-monitoring of blood glucose in glycemic control [A] Cardiovascular risk reduction Tobacco cessation intervention ² [B] and secondhand smoke avoidance [C] Self-care of feet including nail and skin care and appropriate footwear [B]; preconception counseling [D]; encourage patients to receive dental care [D]	At diagnosis and as needed
	Medical recommendations	Care should focus on tobacco cessation, hypertension, lipids and glycemic control: Medications for tobacco dependence unless contraindicated Treatment of hypertension using up to 3-4 anti-hypertensive medications to achieve adult target of < 140/90 mmHg [A] (see <i>MQIC hypertension guideline</i>). Mortality increases if diastolic is treated to levels < 70 [C] Prescription of ACE inhibitor or angiotensin receptor blocker in patients with chronic kidney disease or albuminuria [A] ³ Moderate intensity statin ^{4,5} therapy for persons ≥ 40 years without overt CVD or adults ≥ 50 with CVD risk factor(s), for primary prevention against macrovascular complications (e.g. simvastatin 20-40 mg, atorvastatin 10-20 mg) High intensity statin (e.g. atorvastatin 40-80 mg) for patients with overt CVD Anti-platelet therapy [A]: low dose aspirin, unless contraindicated, for adults with cardiovascular disease. Individualize the A1c goal⁶. Goal for most patients is 7-8%. Mortality increases when A1c is > 9% [B]. Assurance of appropriate immunization status [Tdap or Td, influenza, pneumococcal vaccine (PPSV23), Hep B] [C]	At each visit until therapeutic goals are achieved

¹National Standards for Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support

²There is no evidence that e-cigarettes are a healthier alternative to smoking or that e-cigarettes can facilitate smoking cessation

³Consider referral of patients with serum creatinine value > 2.0 mg/dl (adult value) or persistent albuminuria to nephrologist for evaluation

⁴Diabetes Care, January 2016: Cardiovascular Disease and Risk Management

⁵2013 ACC/AHA Blood Cholesterol Guideline Table 5. High-, Moderate-, and Low-Intensity Statin Therapy

⁶Diabetes Care, Volume 39, Supplement 1, January 2016, S43, Table 5.2 (Tight control is risky in certain patients)

Levels of evidence for the most significant recommendations: A = randomized controlled trials; B = controlled trials, no randomization; C = observational studies; D = opinion of expert panel

This guideline lists core management steps. It is based on the American Diabetes Association Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes - 2016; Volume 39, Supplement 1, Pages S1-S112. Individual patient considerations and advances in medical science may supersede or modify these recommendations.