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Endocrinologist
McGill University Health Centre

Dear Dr.

On behalf of the Canadian Heart Research Centre and the program steering committee, we are pleased to invite you to participate in a new national initiative entitled **VISTA DM** (eVidence baSed pracTice progrAm in Diabetes Mellitus). The **VISTA DM** Program is coordinated by the Canadian Heart Research Centre (CHRC; www.chrc.net), a not-for-profit academic organization specializing in quality improvement initiatives, and is supported by the Boehringer-Ingelheim and Eli Lilly Alliance.

The **VISTA DM** program is designed as An Evidence Based Practice Program which will allow physicians a conscientious, explicit and judicious application of current best evidence (e.g. Clinical Practice Guidelines) in making decisions about patient care.

The **VISTA DM** program will engage 370 Canadian Primary Care Physicians nationally with the goal of evaluating the current management of patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus and will provide evidence-based, guideline-recommended, and practice-gearred approaches to facilitate more optimal management strategies of these high-risk patients.

Please take a few moments to review this invitation and get familiarized with the program components.

The VISTA DM Program will aim to address the common challenges faced by front line physicians through:

- Individual, targeted assessment of current practice;
- A variety of resources and discussions with experts and peers with a focus on applicable and adaptable practice "pearls" with clear management pathways, clinically relevant information and practice tools which will allow for a simpler integration of evidence-based guidelines into real-world practice; and,
- Confidential feedback to evaluate if changes are warranted and practice tools to assist in implementing strategies for optimal management of patients with type 2 diabetes.

NEXT STEPS: If you are INTERESTED in participating in the VISTA DM Program

1. Visit: WWW.VISTADM.CA

2. Enter Your Unique ID:

3. Select: Register and create your user profile

Participants who complete all the required program components will be compensated \$2,300.00 by the CHRC.

Once registered, you will be able to access your personal VISTA DM web-portal and get familiarized with the program components and timelines. To get started with the Phase I of the VISTA DM program, please login to your VISTA DM portal, review and complete the Memorandum of Understanding and complete the Payee Form.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the **VISTA DM** team at the CHRC at 416-977-8010 ext. 347 (1-800-725-6585) or via email at info@vistadm.ca

Thank you for taking the time to review this invitation. We hope that you will join us and 370 of your colleagues in what promises to be a novel and relevant program and look forward to collaborating with you.

With best regards,

Lawrence A. Leiter, MD

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VISTA DM PROGRAM OVERVIEW

How is the VISTA DM Program different from the usual quality improvement and educational programs?

- Our steering committee members are leaders in their respective fields and represent the multi-faceted team involved in the comprehensive care of patients with type 2 diabetes. With insights from experts in endocrinology, cardiology, nephrology, nutritional sciences, pharmacology and primary care, we have designed a unique program that is of practical value to the primary care practice. The **VISTA DM** program will allow physicians to confidentially assess their own practice needs and facilitates knowledge translation through evidence-based clinical decision making support. The decision to follow the recommendations is left to the participating physician's discretion.
- Participants who complete the VISTA DM program may choose to claim numerous Mainpro-C credits as the **VISTA DM** program design meets the description of a self-directed learning activity.

Program Components Synopsis

Needs and Competency Assessment:

- Demographical Information
- Assessment of current understanding, perceptions and priorities (perceived needs)

Participant Resources and Tools:

- Pocket Guides
- Decision Trees
- Flow Sheets
- Reminder Systems and Office Tools
- Access to external resources

Practice Assessment I and II:

- Mechanism to assess unperceived needs through completion of practice assessment forms on patients meeting the eligibility criteria
- Complete ten (10) practice assessment forms in Phase I and Phase II

Interactive Feedback:

- Evidence-based considerations and recommendations based on the current practice assessment results in comparison to evidence-based competency measures
- Feedback on each completed practice assessment form and on aggregate results from all completed practice assessment forms

Practice Re-Assessment I and II:

- Mechanism to assess if the considerations and recommendations summarized in the Interactive Feedback had an impact on practice
- Assess additional barriers to change and measure impact

Patient Survey:

- Insights on current understanding, management, perceptions and priorities from the patients' perspective
- Aggregate Patient Survey results shared confidentially with participants

Learning From Self-Assessment:

- A comprehensive menu of educational platforms to select from based on individual practice needs, self-identified perceived needs and unperceived needs
 - On-Demand Webinars (practical web-based presentations)
 - Live Townhall Meetings (live online webinars, participants are active in setting the meeting agenda by submitting questions pertinent to their unmet educational needs in advance of the sessions)
 - Access to national Key Opinion Leaders

Virtual Patient Cases:

- Clinical encounters in which the participants interact with an on-screen virtual patient and learn by getting feedback on management strategies accompanied by evidence-based summaries from experts

Ethics

The **VISTA DM** program is a quality enhancement initiative and does not mandate any management or treatment interventions. All decisions pertinent to patient management and treatment are at the discretion of the participating physician as part of routine clinical care. No patient identifying information will be collected as part of this initiative. To validate scientific integrity and balance, the **VISTA DM** program has been reviewed and approved by a Central Ethics Committee.

VISTA DM Web Platform

User-friendly, secure web-based platform and resource centre

Participant Compensation:

Participants who complete all the required program components will be compensated **\$2,300.00** by the CHRC

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2. Enter Your Unique ID:
3. Select: Register and Create your user profile
4. Login and get familiarized with the VISTA DM program components and timelines
5. Review and Complete the Memorandum of Understanding
6. Complete the Payee Form
7. Get started with Phase I of the VISTA DM program

If you are **NOT INTERESTED** in participating in the VISTA DM Program:

1. Visit: WWW.VISTADM.CA
2. Enter Your Unique ID:
3. Select: Not Interested



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