**Clinical Review Tool**

Adults with Type 2 Diabetes

June 2016



**What is the clinical review tool for?**

This clinical review tool has been developed to facilitate quality improvement in primary care for people with poor control of their diabetes i.e. people with poor glycaemic control with HbA1c ≥74.9 mmol/mol. Although any practice can utilise the tool, it has been designed for general practices who are participating in the Modified Diabetes Care Improvement Package (DCIP) Programme. The tool will be reviewed as part of the Modified DCIP Programme including whether it could be used for all people with diabetes.

The clinical review tool is a reference that the clinical team can use to review their processes of care. It consists of a set of actions that, when performed collectively and reliably has the potential to improve patient outcomes. The clinical review tool should be read alongside the health pathways/clinical pathways developed for the wider Auckland region by the Regional Pathways Programme. Other useful resources include the national quality standards for diabetes care[[1]](#footnote-1) and the toolkit[[2]](#footnote-2) which provides advice for implementation and evaluation.

Similar improvement tools have been used successfully in a number of hospital clinical areas and are now being used more extensively in primary care through initiatives such as the Safety in Practice collaborative programme.

The elements of the tool are not intended to be prescriptive. Clinicians are expected to continue to utilise their clinical judgement and customise actions to patients as appropriate.

The clinical review tool can be used by general practices to identify where care is in line with best practice and where improvements need to be made to practice processes or patient care. Use of the tool is easy using yes or no responses. A small sample of patients (say 5 to 10) is reviewed to determine whether all the clinical review tool elements have been achieved.

Where a clinical review tool element has sub-elements, all sub-elements must be achieved in order for the element to be achieved.

**Resources**

This improvement tool has the following resources:

1. **Health Pathways**Diagnosis of diabetes: <http://aucklandregion.healthpathways.org.nz/index.htm?28337.htm>

Username: connected  
Password: Healthcare

Other pathways are available through the menu on the left of the screen.

1. **Quality Standards for Diabetes Care**:   
    <http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/diabetes/quality-standards-diabetes-care>
2. **Quality Standards for Diabetes Care Toolkit**: <http://www.health.govt.nz/publication/quality-standards-diabetes-care-toolkit-2014>

**Measures for Adults with Type 2 Diabetes**

1. **Has the patient participated in an active care planning process to develop an individualised self management care plan?**
   1. Is there evidence of an individualised regularly reviewed HbA1c goal (e.g. every 3 months)?
   2. Is there evidence of ongoing diabetes education tailored to the patient and family?
   3. Is there evidence of psycho-social needs assessment and review?
2. **Has the patient had an assessment for the risk and presence of complications of diabetes?**
   1. **Foot check**

Is there evidence of appropriate management of foot risk in the last 12 months? E.g. education, patient discussion, referral.

* 1. **Eye check**

Has the patient been referred for retinopathy screen as per clinical guidelines?

* 1. **Cardiovascular risk management**

Has a cardiovascular risk assessment been performed, documented and communicated with the patient within the last 12 months?

* 1. **Renal function management**

Is there evidence that an ACR has been performed in the last 12 months or more frequently if abnormal?

1. **Has the patient had review of their treatment in the last 3 months?**

Is there evidence that medications have been modified to manage blood glucose, lipids, BP and ACR in accordance with local health pathways/clinical pathways?

1. Ministry of Health. 2014. Quality Standards for Diabetes Care. Wellington. Ministry of Health. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Ministry of Health. 2014. Quality Standards for Diabetes Care Toolkit. Wellington. Ministry of Health. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)