

Global Diabetes Compact

Implementation in the Region of the Americas



PAHO



Pan American
Health
Organization



World Health
Organization
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE
Americas



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WHAT IS THE GLOBAL DIABETES COMPACT?

In recognition of the growing burden of diabetes, the World Health Assembly in 2021 urged Member States “to intensify, where appropriate, efforts to address the prevention and control of diabetes as a public health problem as part of universal health coverage by advancing comprehensive approaches on prevention, management, including its complications, and integrated service delivery, while emphasizing the importance of early and childhood prevention”.

The WHO Global Diabetes Compact (GDC) was created as a global initiative to improve diabetes prevention and care, and to contribute to the global targets to reduce premature mortality due to noncommunicable diseases by one-third by 2030.

Vision: To reduce the risk of diabetes and ensure that all people diagnosed with diabetes have access to quality care and treatment that is equitable, comprehensive, and affordable.

Overall Goal: Support countries in implementing cost-effective programs for the prevention and control of diabetes, this includes reducing diabetes risk factors through multisectoral population-based health policies and strengthening primary health care for timely diabetes diagnosis and treatment, prioritizing vulnerable populations living with diabetes.



Protect



Detect

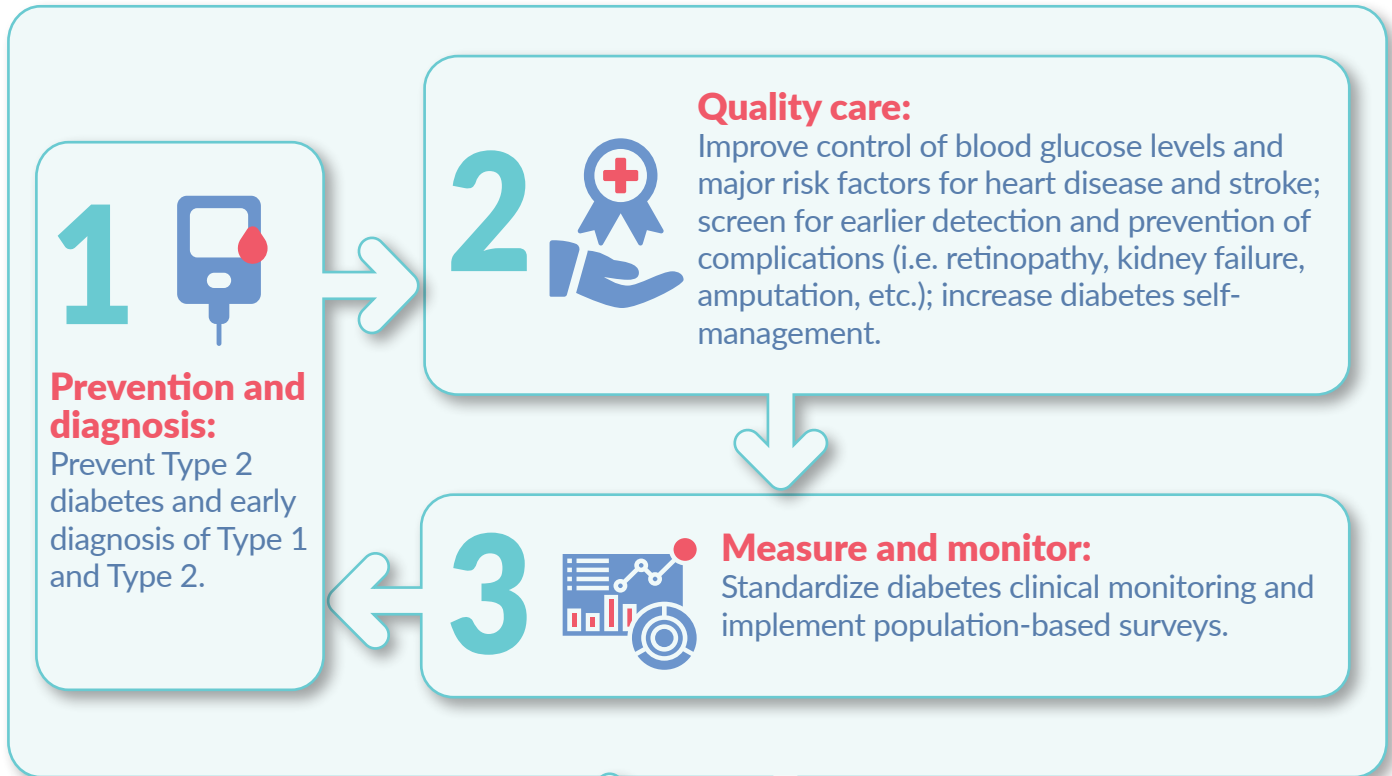


Treat



Recover

Pillars

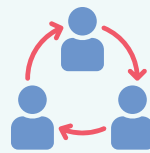


Cross-cutting Areas:



Medicines and technologies:

Increase access to insulin and other essential medicines and technologies for diabetes care.



Learning from people living with diabetes (PLWD):

Include people with diabetes in the design and implementation of diabetes programs.



Health System Strengthening:

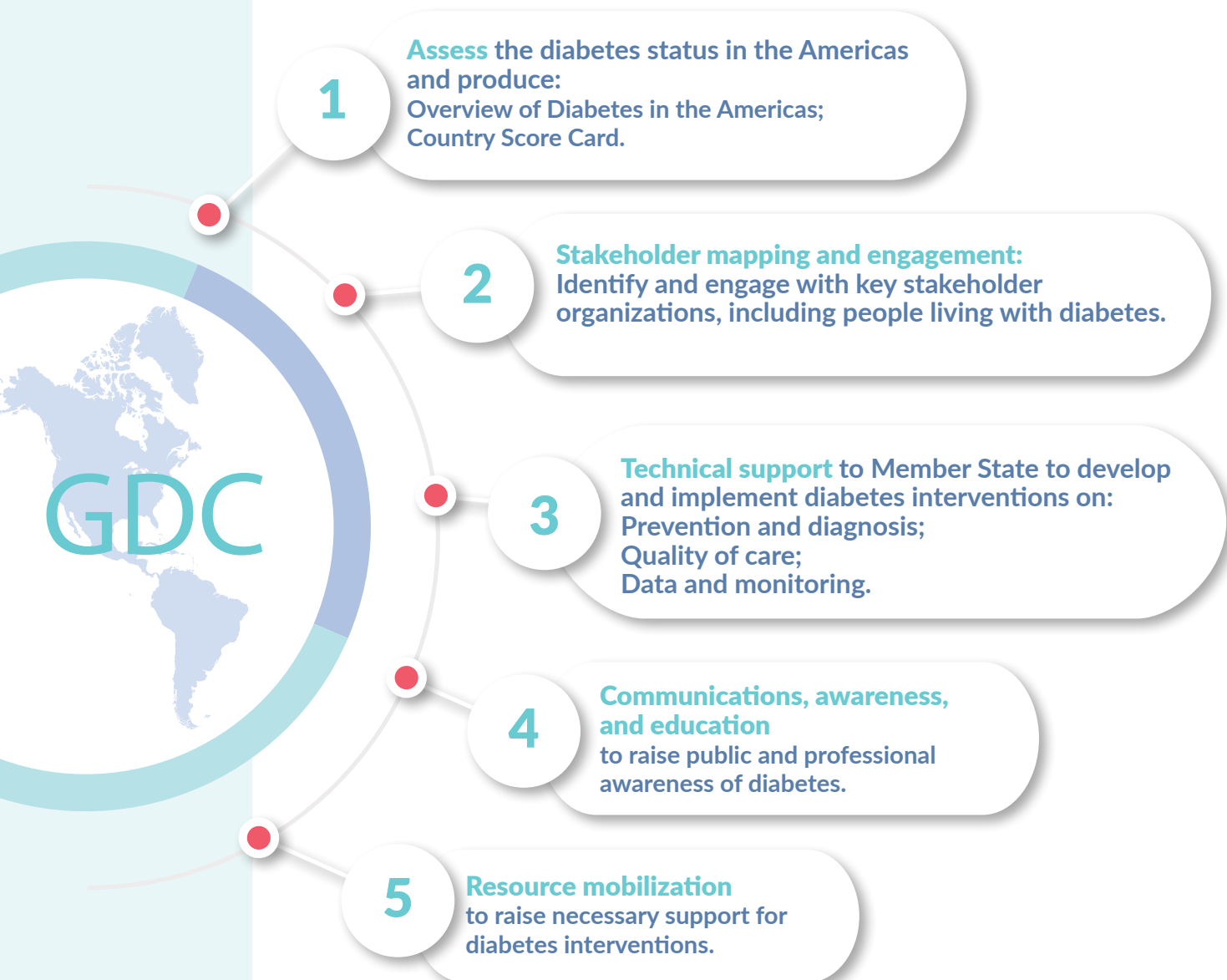
- Include diabetes as part of integrated care for NCDs in primary care;
- Standardize treatment protocols, and train healthcare workers in diabetes management;
- Develop information systems for monitoring care;
- Include diabetes in plans to advance universal health coverage;
- Ensure that diabetes care is part of the response in health emergencies and humanitarian crises.

WHY IS A GLOBAL DIABETES COMPACT NEEDED NOW?

- ➔ **Deadly interplay** between the diabetes epidemic and the **COVID-19 pandemic**: People living with diabetes are at a higher risk of developing severe COVID-19 symptoms and are among the most impacted by the pandemic; and emerging evidence showing new-onset diabetes in many with COVID-19. Access to diabetes services have been hampered due to the **health service interruptions** in many countries in the Americas during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ➔ Global NCD target **to halt the rise of diabetes and obesity** by 2025 is not on track to be met: The number of people with diabetes is increasing in all regions, and diabetes is among the leading cause of disability-adjusted life years (DALYs). **Premature mortality** due to diabetes is increasing in the Region of the Americas, where 43% of people who die due to diabetes are 30-70 years of age.
- ➔ **High rates of overweight and obesity**: The Region of the Americas is the WHO region with the highest prevalence of overweight and obesity, as well as physical inactivity, and these have been increasing since 2000.
- ➔ **Gaps in care**: An estimated 39% of adults with diabetes are unaware of their disease. Insulin, and basic technologies such as glucometers for blood glucose testing are generally not available in the public sector primary health care clinics in many countries, and health professionals lack sufficient training in diabetes, while the costs of care and complications are extremely high.
- ➔ In the Region of the Americas, an estimated **62 million people with diabetes** need access to quality, continuous care, and self-management support to improve their quality of life.

HOW WILL THE GLOBAL DIABETES COMPACT BE APPLIED IN THE REGION OF THE AMERICAS?

The following strategies and actions will be implemented by PAHO, in collaboration with Member States and partner organizations, to contribute to the Global Diabetes Compact.



1 Assess: Conduct an assessment of the current situation of diabetes including prevalence, mortality, risk factors and health system response in the Americas. Produce the brochure “Overview of Diabetes in the Americas” and country scorecard. Consult Member States on interventions to improve diabetes prevention and control programs.

2 Stakeholder mapping and engagement: Identify key organizations and collaborating partners, including PLWD groups, to co-develop the implementation plan for the GDC.

3 Technical support to the Member States to develop and implement diabetes action plans: Use PAHO/WHO tools to create specific activities for the three pillars of prevention and diagnosis, quality care, and monitoring. When possible, this initiative will be integrated with other initiatives or NCD programs that the country is implementing at the primary care level. It will include activities for diabetes education and self-management support, promoting standardized treatment protocols, training providers, increasing use of the PAHO Strategic Fund for diabetes medicines, and monitoring diabetes treatment coverage, control rates, and complication rates.

4 Communications, awareness-raising, and education raising: A series of communication products will be prepared and launched to raise awareness of diabetes among providers, people living with diabetes, and the community.

5 Resource mobilization: Proposals, based on country needs, will be prepared and donor support sought in order to raise needed resources for countries to implement diabetes interventions.



WHAT TECHNICAL MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF DIABETES INTERVENTIONS IN THE REGION OF THE AMERICAS?

1. WHO Classification of Diabetes practical guidance for clinicians.WHO;2019. Available from: <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/325182>
2. WHO Guidelines on second- and third-line medicines and type of insulin for the control of blood glucose levels in non-pregnant adults with diabetes mellitus. WHO;2018. Available from: <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/272433>
3. Insulin and associated devices: access for everybody: WHO stakeholder workshop, 21 and 23–25 September 2020. WHO; 2020. Available from: <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/336609>
4. PAHO Building Blocks for Diabetes Education and Care. PAHO;2009. Available from: <https://www.paho.org/en/documents/building-blocks-diabetes-education-and-control-framework-comprehensive-diabetes-care>
5. Health Technology Manual. Improving the Integrated Management of Chronic Diseases at the First Level of Health Care Services, PAHO; 2017. Available from: <https://iris.paho.org/handle/10665.2/34048>
6. WHO package of essential noncommunicable (PEN) disease interventions for primary health care. WHO; 2020. p.18-26. Available from: <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/334186>
7. Tackling NCDs: "Best buys" and other recommended interventions for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases. WHO;2017. Available from: <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/259232>
8. Diagnosis and management of type 2 diabetes (HEARTS-D).WHO;2020. Available from: <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/331710>
9. HEARTS, Cardiovascular risk calculator, app. PAHO;2021. Available from: <https://www.paho.org/en/hearts-americas/cardiovascular-risk-calculator-app>
10. Passport to Healthy lifestyles. OPS; 2012. Available from: <https://www.paho.org/en/documents/pahowho-passport-healthy-lifestyle-2014-0>
11. Chronic care passport: to facilitate patient self-management.PAHO;2012. Available from: <https://www.paho.org/en/documents/paho-chronic-care-passport-2012>
12. PAHO Strategic Fund (for medicines and technologies): essential diabetes medicines included and available for purchase by Member States.PAHO;2021. Available from: <https://www.paho.org/en/paho-strategic-fund>
13. WHO list of priority medical devices for management of cardiovascular diseases and diabetes. WHO;2021. Available from: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240027978>

World Health Organization. The WHO Global Diabetes Compact [Internet]. Geneva: WHO;2021.
Available from: <https://www.who.int/initiatives/the-who-global-diabetes-compact>

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