



NEWS RELEASE

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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American Diabetes Association and the Alabama Department of Public Health team up to provide a diabetes update for the health care community

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Following the recent announcement that Alabama leads the nation in the prevalence of diabetes, the American Diabetes Association and the Alabama Department of Public Health Diabetes Program have teamed up to offer a diabetes update for the health care community.

The program will address diabetes prevention and pre-diabetes, screening to prevent diabetes related complications, including heart disease, kidney disease and stroke. It will also provide extensive information about the many new diabetes treatment options. The conference will be held Saturday, March 15, at the Medical Forum, Birmingham Jefferson Convention Complex, in Birmingham.

Primary care physicians, nurses, dietitians and pharmacists are the target audience for this education program, which will feature presentations by Dr. Donald Williamson, State Health Officer, Alabama Department of Public Health, and Dr. Jim Gavin, President, Morehouse School of Medicine and Past President of the American Diabetes Association. Continuing education credit has been approved for physicians, nurses, dietitians and pharmacists.

"The Alabama Department of Public Health is committed to reducing the burden of diabetes in Alabama. This collaborative program will equip health care workers with the information they need to continue addressing this problem in the state more effectively," said Dr. Williamson.

"Our goal is to provide timely information and tools to help health care professionals and patients strive to prevent diabetes and, when diabetes is present, to prevent or delay cardiovascular risk factors and other complications," said Dr. Rudy Vargas, program chairman.

The American Diabetes association is the nation's leading voluntary health organization supporting diabetes research, information and advocacy. Founded in 1940, the Association has offices in every region of the country, providing services to more than 800 communities.

To register for this program, call (407) 660-1926, ext 3019, pogles@diabetes.org, or for more information contact the Alabama Department of Public Health Web site at 1-800-252-1818.