



# AACE LEGISLATIVE FACT SHEET

## SUPPORT THE NATIONAL CLINICAL CARE COMMISSION ACT (H.R. 309/S. 920)

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**The Problem for Our Patients:** Metabolic, autoimmune, and insulin resistant diseases, including diabetes and pre-diabetes, and the largely preventable chronic diseases and conditions resulting from diabetes are reducing quality of life, productivity, and life expectancy for millions of Americans. In addition, innovations discovered with federal research dollars are not being effectively translated to the clinical setting, getting to patients who need them most. For example,

- Diabetes is the leading cause of new cases of blindness among adults
- Diabetes is the leading cause of kidney failure
- 60% of all non-traumatic lower limb amputations in the U.S. occur in individuals with diabetes
- 60 – 70 % of individuals with diabetes have neuropathies or nerve disorders
- Diabetes is the 7<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death in the United States

**The Problem for Our Nation:** This cluster of largely preventable chronic diseases and conditions are bankrupting Medicare and will soon bankrupt the healthcare system.

- 29 million Americans have diabetes
- Today 1 out of 9 adult Americans has diabetes; 1 out of 3 adult Americans will have diabetes by 2050, if the current trends continue
- 86 million Americans have pre-diabetes
- Today 3 out of 4 Americans with Medicare have diabetes or pre-diabetes
- \$1 out of every \$3 Medicare dollars is spent on diabetes
- The U.S. spent \$245 billion in 2012 on diagnosed diabetes, a 41% increase over 5 years

***A new generation of innovative medications and devices, such as the artificial pancreas, are about to become available for patient care. This could revolutionize how Americans live well with diabetes. However, doing so will require the government to change the status quo of agencies working in silos. We need a coordinated national response, driven by experts in endocrinology, specialists, health care professionals and people living with diabetes.***

**The Solution:** Enact the National Clinical Care Commission Act. This bill establishes a commission that will make recommendations to Congress and the Secretary of HHS on improving care delivery to patients with diabetes and related metabolic and autoimmune diseases. The National Clinical Care Commission will:

- Provide a formal mechanism for federal agencies to receive consistent and direct clinical expertise and a practical perspective from professionals who work directly with patients.
- Identify and evaluate current federal quality improvement activities and critical gaps in efforts to support clinicians in providing integrated, high quality care.
- Make recommendations regarding clinically-based activities supported by federal resources to maximize their effectiveness in improving the quality of care provided to patients with diabetes and its complications.
- Assist in the development, coordination and evaluation of clinical resources and tools produced by federal agencies and in disseminating this information to health care professionals and patients in their communities.
- Evaluate innovative care models and outcomes-based registry data for providing optimal cost-effective care.
- Evaluate the HHS diabetes screening program, annual wellness visit and other prevention activities that may reduce diabetes and its complications; identify problems related to the utilization of programs and data collection.
- Forward recommendations to Congress and the Secretary of HHS within three years and then sunset.
- Operate using existing funds with no additional cost to the government.

**Request:** The National Clinical Care Commission Act, HR 309, passed the House of Representatives on January 9, 2017, and an amended version of the bill, S. 920, passed the Senate HELP Committee and awaits Senate floor action!