



DIABETES: Why Seeing Your Primary Care Provider (PCP) Matters



WHAT IS DIABETES?

Diabetes is a condition that affects how your body uses sugar (glucose) for energy. If diabetes is not managed, it can cause serious health problems over time.

WHY DIABETES NEEDS REGULAR CARE

When diabetes is not checked or treated:

- Blood sugar can get too high
- Damage can happen to the heart, kidneys, eyes, and nerves
- Small problems can turn into emergencies



Seeing a doctor early helps prevent these problems.

WHEN DIABETES IS NOT MANAGED

When diabetes is not checked or treated:



Emergency room visits



Hospital stays



Missed work



Higher medical bills

Regular PCP visits help avoid these outcomes.

WHY SEEING YOUR PCP CAN SAVE YOU MONEY

Seeing your PCP:

- ✓ Usually costs less than seeing a specialist
- ✓ May only require a small copay or no cost at all
- ✓ Can prevent emergency room visits

If diabetes is not managed early, you may need:

- Endocrinologists (specialists)
- Hospital stays
- Emergency care

These services often cost much more. Your PCP is usually the least expensive place to start care.