# INTEGRATE EMOTIONAL AND BEHAVIORAL SUPPORT



A critical component of managing and treating patients with Type 2 diabetes is emotional and behavioral support, addressing patient motivation as well as diabetes-related distress (i.e., emotional responses related to the disease). This support includes intervention strategies to promote patient engagement and selfmanagement. Patients are offered resources and/or referrals for behavioral health support.

With good care, people with diabetes can live long, healthy lives. Yet, many struggle with managing their diabetes and can become overwhelmed by the often burdensome self-care demands, potentially leading to anger, guilt, depression, fear, or feelings of hopelessness. This reality highlights the importance of integrating psychosocial support with clinical care.

Behavioral health conditions are more common in patients with chronic conditions. Those with untreated depression and diabetes or heart disease have poorer self-care, greater functional impairment, lower quality of life, and an increased risk of developing complications and premature death. Patients with these diagnoses use more medical resources, are more likely to be hospitalized for medical conditions, and are readmitted to the hospital more frequently.

Evidence indicates that having two, mostly independent systems of care leads to worse health and higher total spending. The main goal of most integrated care programs is to improve communication between behavioral health and primary care providers, thereby improving care coordination.

# INTERVENTIONS TO INCREASE EMOTIONAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SUPPORT

- Provide communication skills training to providers that promotes listening to the patients, expressing empathy, allowing patients to share their frustrations openly, and validating feelings.
- Emphasize the importance of careful use of language. Messaging should avoid judgmental tone, motivate patients, and emphasize that patients can lead long, healthy lives.
- Create the role of care managers to monitor the patient's condition, provide self-management support, coordinate care, refer to community resources, and proactively work closely with physicians and behavioral providers.
- Refer to resources such as support groups, patient advocacy groups, online forums, social media, patient blogs, and web-based tools.
- Focus on a manageable number of mutually agreedupon goals for each patient. A scorecard with key diabetes numbers can avoid overwhelming patients.
- Use validated tools to screen for depression and anxiety, and understand the difference between depression and diabetes distress.
- Develop a collaborative plan with behavioral health practitioners to address depression, anxiety, and other conditions.
- Select people with diabetes to serve as advocates on decision-making committees.

# TOOL: HEALTHY COPING PATIENT HANDOUT (ENGLISH)

# SUTTER HEALTH

# **Healthy Coping**

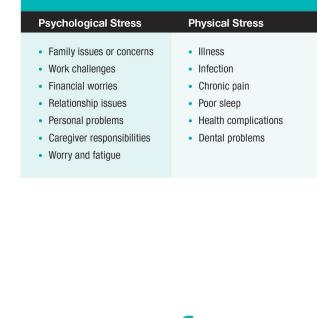
# Learning You Have Diabetes

Learning you have diabetes changes your life forever. You may feel scared, shocked, angry or overwhelmed. You may not want to believe it. These are normal reactions. Always remember that diabetes is a manageable disease. Learning how to manage your disease will ease your fear and anxiety. Many people diagnosed with type 2 diabetes become very motivated to improve their overall health and lifestyle, so they can enjoy life to its fullest. Learning coping skills and getting the support you need is very important.

# Stress

Stress is a natural part of life. Sometimes it can affect us in a good way—such as teaching us new skills, motivating and strengthening us. But other times, stress can harm our health, especially if it persists day after day. Chronic stress can raise blood pressure, heart rate, cholesterol and blood glucose.

# Type of Stress



Sutter Health



#### SUTTER HEALTH

# **Coping Skills to Manage Stress**

It is important to learn healthy ways to reduce and manage stress. Doing this can help improve your blood glucose levels and your overall health.

#### **Tips for Stress Management**

- Take a break: relax, take a walk, slow down, have some fun.
- Take care of your body. Eat healthy, sleep well, exercise, manage pain.
- Get support through friends, family members or professional counseling.
- Calm down and let go. Try deep-breathing exercises, meditation, or yoga.
- Make priorities. Decide what is most important in your life and stay focused on that.
- Take care of yourself. Do not put everyone else's needs ahead of your own.
- Set realistic goals. Try to change only those things that you can.
- Nurture yourself spiritually, emotionally and mentally. Treat yourself like your own best friend.
- Take time to do things you love.
- Stay positive.
- Your ideas:

# **Recognizing Depression**

When you first learn that you have diabetes—or at other times in your life when your stress level remains high week after week—it is normal to feel sad and anxious. When stress worsens enough to affect your motivation, energy level and daily happiness, you could be experiencing symptoms of depression. Depression can make managing your diabetes, health and lifestyle more challenging.

Depression is treatable, but it often takes expert help and guidance, including counseling and medicine. If you have some of the symptoms below, talk to your health care provider. You deserve to enjoy life without depression.

#### Symptoms of Depression

- Sadness or irritability
- · Withdrawing or isolating yourself
- Fatigue and trouble sleeping
- Poor concentration, forgetting things
- Poor eating habits
  - Feeling overwhelmed
- Lack of motivation
- Feeling hopeless and helpless

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### **Diabetes Burnout**

Taking care of your diabetes is an ongoing, daily routine. This routine gets easier when it becomes a habit. On the other hand, sometimes you may get tired of doing what it takes to manage your diabetes.

#### Signs of Diabetes Burnout

- Anger or resentment about having to manage your diabetes
- Feelings of being overwhelmed when thinking about the daily management routine
- Neglecting diabetes care: forgetting medicine, not checking blood glucose, not paying attention to eating and exercise
- No motivation or energy to manage your diabetes and take care of yourself
- Denying, forgetting or ignoring your diabetes

If you feel you have diabetes burnout, speak to your health care provider.

### **Taking Action**

To manage your diabetes, your health care provider may recommend many lifestyle changes. Remember, no one expects you to immediately change all your daily habits. Most people do best when they can work on one lifestyle change at a time. Keep in mind these important steps for success:

- Make a clear plan
- Keep it realistic
- Do it consistently
- Document your success

It is normal to make mistakes and fall back on old habits, but sticking to your plan will help you achieve successful results. With success comes a feeling of well being.

Choose one of the AADE7<sup>™</sup> Self-Care Behaviors to create a behavior-change goal. Then work with your health care provider to develop an action plan that will help you reach your goal.

- · Healthy eating
- Being active
- Monitoring
- Taking medications
- Problem solving
- Reducing risks
- Healthy coping

You can use the Take Action form on the next page.



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Take Action Pla	n		
<b>SMART</b> goals help peophealthcare team track the your goal. When you are program, you will set sho met during the program.	in a diabetes education	SMART go Specific Measurable Achievable Realistic Time-Limited	als are:
If you answer these you will have a SM	questions and complete th ART goal to follow.	iis sentence	
<b>By</b> (date)	I will WHAT		
WHEN	, WHER	E	,
HOW OFTEN (daily, v	veekly etc.)	, HOW LONG	
in order to <b>WHY</b> (i.e. I	ower blood glucose, lose w	eight)	
How will you <b>TRACK</b>	your goal?		

#### **Confidence Level**

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

We ask people to "Rate your confidence level" after you set a goal. Confidence means how likely you think you can finish your goal.

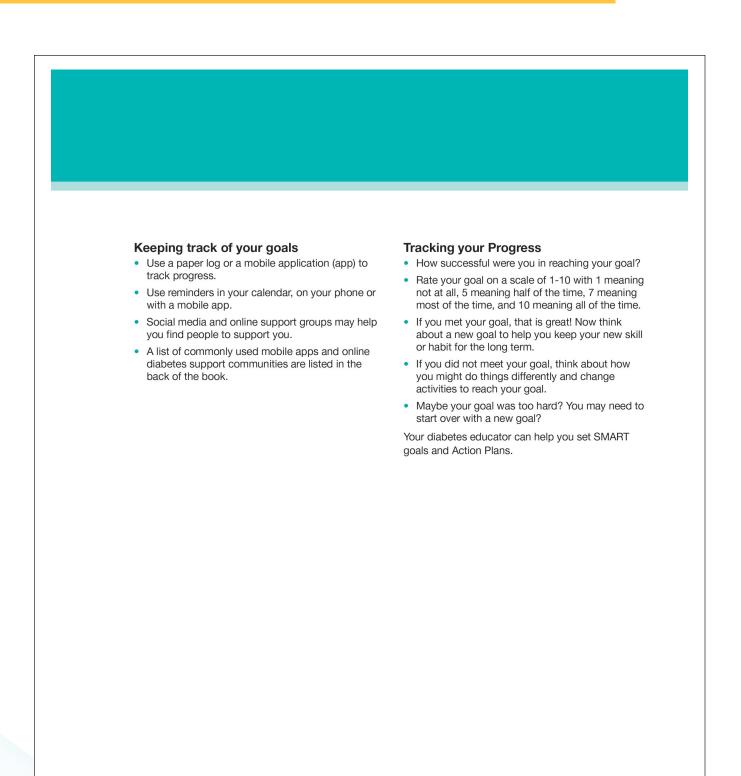
- A rating of 1 means you are not sure at all and a rating of 10 means you are very sure. If you choose a 6 or below, ask yourself, how you can change your goal to make it easier to reach?
- Start with something you think is doable and then add on to the goal over time.
- Small changes now help you to meet bigger goals later.

#### Action Plan

An Action Plan helps you to meet your goal and to make changes to your goal when you are not able to finish what you set out to do. Ask yourself these questions:

- Who do you need support from?
- What might get in the way or make it hard for you to reach your goal?
- What is a reasonable time frame for your goal?
- What are some things you can do differently?
- Is your home or work planned to help you reach your goal?

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# Adaptación saludable

# Enterarse de que tiene diabetes

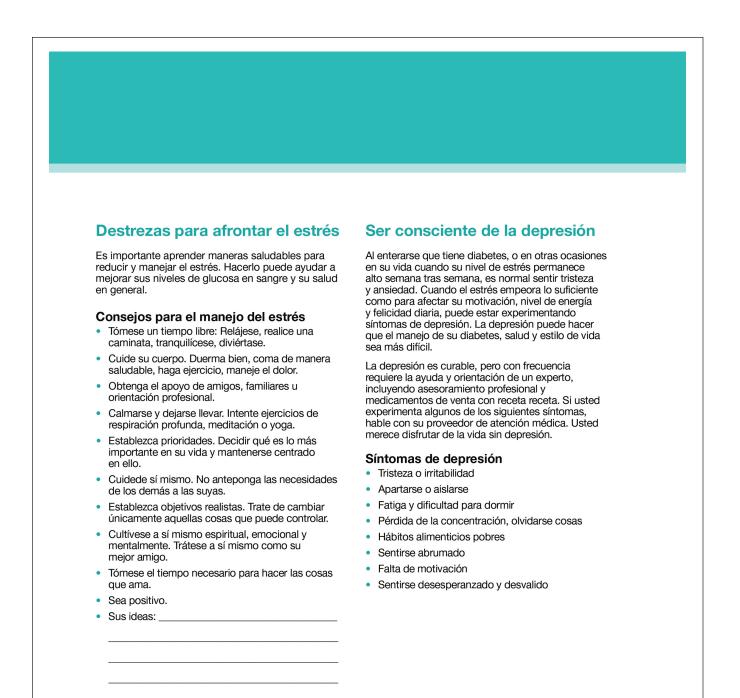
Enterarse de que tiene diabetes cambia su vida para siempre. Puede sentir miedo, impacto, enojo o sentirse abrumado. Probablemente no quiera creerlo. Estas son las reacciones normales. Recuerde siempre que la diabetes es una enfermedad que se puede controlar. Aprender a controlar su enfermedad le ayudará a aliviar su ansiedad y temor. Muchas personas diagnosticadas con diabetes tipo 2 se ven muy motivadas a mejorar su salud en general y estilo de vida, de manera que pueden disfrutar de la vida a plenitud. Aprender las habilidades de adaptación y obtener el apoyo que necesita es muy importante.

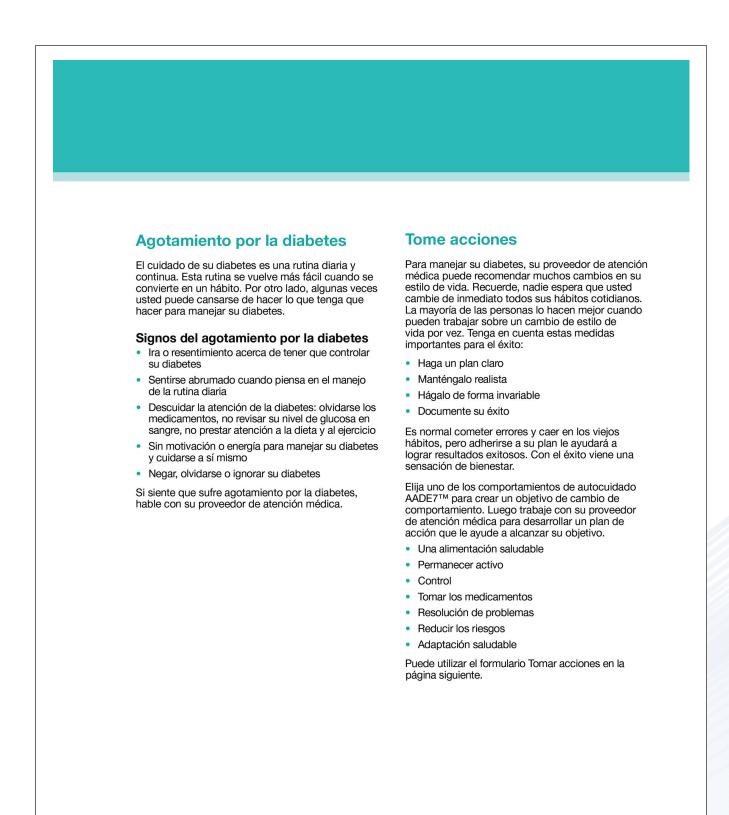
# **Estrés**

El estrés es una parte natural de la vida. Algunas veces puede afectarnos de buena forma, como enseñarnos nuevas habilidades, motivación y fortalecernos. Pero otras veces, el estrés puede dañar nuestra salud, especialmente si persiste día tras día. El estrés crónico puede elevar la tensión arterial, la frecuencia cardíaca, el colesterol y la glucosa en la sangre.

# Tipo de estrés

Estrés psicológico	Estrés físico
<ul> <li>Problemas familiares o inquietudes</li> <li>Desafíos laborales</li> <li>Preocupaciones financieras</li> <li>Problemas de relaciones</li> <li>Problemas personales</li> <li>Responsabilidades de los cuidadores</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Infección</li> <li>Dolor crónico</li> <li>No dormir bien</li> <li>Complicaciones de salud</li> <li>Problemas dentales</li> </ul>





Adopte un plan de acción	
Los objetivos <b>inteligentes</b> ayudan a las personas	Los objetivos inteligent
con diabetes y a su equipo de atención médica a hacer seguimiento al progreso para alcanzar su objetivo. Cuando se encuentra en un programa de Educación de la diabetes, usted establecerá objetivos de corto plazo que se pueden cumplir durante el programa.	Los objetivos <b>inteligentes</b> son: Específicos Medibles Alcanzables Realistas Limitados en el tiempo
Si usted responde estas preguntas y completa es una meta SMART (Inteligente) a seguir.	sta frase tendrá
Por (fecha) Yo QUÉ	,
CUÁNDO, DÓN	DE,
¿Con qué frecuencia (semanal diaria, etc)	. Por cuánto tiempo
	-
con el fin de <b>por qué</b> (es decir reducir el nivel de alucas	a en sanore, perder peso)
con el fin de <b>por qué</b> (es decir, reducir el nivel de glucos	
¿Cómo hará <b>seguimiento</b> de su objetivo?	
¿Cómo hará <b>seguimiento</b> de su objetivo?	Plan de acción
¿Cómo hará <b>seguimiento</b> de su objetivo? <b>Nivel de confianza</b> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Le pedimos a las personas que "Califiquen su nivel de confianza" después de que usted establezca	
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