



American Heart Association®

Target: Type 2 Diabetes™

Target: Type 2 Diabetessm Outpatient Program

Frequently Asked Questions

ABOUT

What is the Target: Type 2 Diabetes Outpatient Program?

The Target: Type 2 Diabetessm program is a quality improvement and recognition opportunity for organizations providing outpatient care related to type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular risk factors. Brought to you by the American Heart Association and Know Diabetes by Heart™, the initiative brings together resources, education materials, regional AHA staff support, and recognition opportunities to target improvement and acknowledge organizations for their impactful work.

What is Know Diabetes by Heart™?

The American Heart Association (AHA) and the American Diabetes Association (ADA), along with industry leaders, have proudly launched the groundbreaking collaborative initiative Know Diabetes by Heart to reduce cardiovascular deaths, heart attacks and strokes in people living with type 2 diabetes.

What are the benefits of Target: Type 2 Diabetes participation and recognition?

Registered organizations will receive communications regarding events, recognition, education and science. Regional AHA staff are available to support your improvement journey. Recognized organizations may receive certificates of achievement, listing on our national websites, promotional materials, opportunities for best practice showcases, resources for self-promotion, and more.

Is there a fee for participation in the Target: Type 2 Diabetes Outpatient Improvement Program?

No. The AHA offers this program as a free resource and program.

Is there an inpatient or hospital focused Target: Type 2 Diabetes Program?

Yes. Target: Type 2 Diabetes Inpatient Honor Roll is an initiative focused on driving improvement in Get With the Guidelines®-Heart Failure and -Stroke participating hospitals. Hospitals with these modules will have expanded diabetes related registry elements and reporting. Hospitals that meet specific measure thresholds may be eligible for recognition in the Target: Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll alongside their existing Get With the Guidelines awards.

REGISTRATION

Who should register?

All U.S.-based organizations who are interested in receiving more information about the program, our educational resources, and relevant clinical updates are encouraged to register. Non-U.S.-based organizations are encouraged to engage in Know Diabetes by Heart communications but are not eligible to submit data and/or be recognized within Target: Type 2 Diabetes at this time.

How do we join?

Go to www.heart.org/RegisterMyOutpatientOrg to register. Registration is open year-round. (For the best user experience, use Chrome, Safari or Firefox as your browser. If you use Internet Explorer, be sure to use version 10 or higher.) Parties interested in data submission and recognition should indicate they would like access to our Data Submission Platform within the registration process.

REGISTRATION *continued*

What information do I need to register?

- Your organization's contact information
- Your organization's total adult (18-85 years) patient population count
- Your organization's total adult patients (18-85 years) that are a race other than white and/or identify as Hispanic or Latino ethnicity
- The total number of clinic locations in your health system.
Note: You may register each of your health center locations individually or as a single system overall.
- Your organization's characteristics, such as multi-specialty, Federally Qualified Health Center, etc.

My organization registered for Target: Type 2 Diabetes last year. Do I need to re-register to submit data this year?

No. Registration for Target: Type 2 Diabetes is required only one time per organization. You can go straight into the data platform and log in using your existing user credentials to start your new data submission.

RECOGNITION

Who is eligible for recognition?

At this time, only U.S.-based healthcare organizations that are directly diagnosing and treating patients with diabetes, including prescribing and managing medications, can qualify for the Target: Type 2 Diabetes Outpatient Recognition Program.

What are the recognition award levels?

Target: Type 2 Diabetes Outpatient Recognition has two levels of recognition available to registered, eligible organizations. All data for recognition must be received in the data submission platform for eligibility.

Participant Award:

Recognizes organizations who complete the data submission process inclusive of:

- Organizational information inclusive of a commitment to participate/improve and attestations that your organization diagnoses and treats patients with diabetes and that your responses are complete and accurate.
- Summary numerator/denominator data on the following measures for the previous calendar year:

Required for all:

Diabetes: Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) Poor Control (>9%) (MIPS #1)

AND one of the following two CVD related measures:

- Statin Therapy for the Prevention and Treatment of Cardiovascular Disease (MIPS #438)
- Controlling High Blood Pressure (MIPS #236)

Gold Achievement Award:

Recognizes organizations who achieve a Participant Award **and** meet specified thresholds for each clinical measure the site wishes to submit.

Required for all:

Annual rate of 25% or less for HbA1c Poor Control (>9%) based on MIPS #1

AND one of the following two CVD related measures:

- Annual rate of 70% or greater for appropriate statin therapy based on MIPS #438
- Annual rate of 70% or greater for blood pressure control based on MIPS #236

Where can I find more information on the measures and their specifications?

The measures selected for Target: Type 2 Diabetes are nationally endorsed and used in many programs such as the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS) Quality Payment Program (QPP) and Uniform Data System reporting (UDS) required of Federally Qualified Health Centers. **Measures should be calculated per the CMS guidelines without deviation.**

Guidelines for 2023 data are linked below:

- Diabetes measure required for all participants:
 - [Diabetes: Hemoglobin A1c \(HbA1c\) Poor Control \(>9%\) \(MIPS #1\)](#)
- CVD risk management measures (select at least 1)
 - [Statin Therapy for the Prevention and Treatment of Cardiovascular Disease \(MIPS #438\)](#)
 - [Controlling High Blood Pressure \(MIPS #236\)](#)

What is the data collection timeframe?

Data from the previous calendar year are collected once a year in accordance with the current year's recognition cycle. Visit www.heart.org/TargetType2DiabetesOutpatient for this year's data submission window.

How can I prepare for data submission?

The AHA has prepared a [Data Collection Worksheet](#) to help interested registrants. This worksheet can be found alongside our other recognition resources.

May I edit my data after it has been submitted?

Yes. You will be able to edit data at any time. However, once the submission window closes, a snapshot of your data will be taken and that will determine your recognition award level. Any data edited after the submission window closes will not be considered for recognition.

When calculating the total number of adult patients (Question 3) for my organization with a visit in 2023, which patients should I include? Why does it state to "exclude acute care visits?"

Include all patients with a regular office or telehealth encounter, excluding patients seen only in an emergency context such as in an urgent care setting (inpatient or outpatient). The intention is to capture patients with visits where hypertension could be diagnosed or managed.

Can my organization use a subset or sample of patients for the measure denominators?

Sampling is discouraged. If sampling is the only means available for participation, please note that inconsistent patient volumes or outliers may be flagged for additional audits for confirmation. If you need support regarding sampling concerns, please reach out to our [AQ Contact Us form](#).

I see several new questions in the Clinical Practices tab. Why have these been added?

The parent program of Target: Type 2 Diabetes, Know Diabetes by Heart, has entered a new phase and expanded its focus to include equity in care, accelerating team-based care models, and empower individuals to be active participants in their care. Knowing and implementing the latest clinical guidelines is critical to supporting each of these goals.

To better support organizations in their awareness of and use of the guidelines, we want to learn your current practices. We have added a series of questions about guideline-directed pharmacologic therapy and kidney health screening to understand how your organization incorporates these into existing workflows. The answers to these questions, when paired with our learnings from a Quality Collective in 2023, will inform the creation of additional resources and trainings, as well as the direction of future recognition criteria.

Why the focus on GLP-1 receptor agonists and SGLT-2 inhibitors?

These medications have been around for years, but recent national and international clinical trials have shown GLP-1 receptor agonists and SGLT-2 inhibitors to be game-changers in reducing the risk of heart disease, stroke, heart failure and chronic kidney disease among people living with type 2 diabetes.

For a program focused on diabetes and cardiovascular disease, why are we being asked about kidney health screening procedures?

Patients with type 2 diabetes and kidney disease are three times more likely to die from a cardiovascular event. Early detection and use of medications designed to protect the heart and kidneys can help to prevent these events. The American Diabetes Association recommends that patients have their urine albumin and urine creatinine levels checked every year to measure kidney function and detect early signs of trouble. For additional guidance on kidney health screening, [view this guide](#).

Who from my organization might be best to answer these questions?

Health care organizational staff familiar with clinical practices, protocols, and training may include:

- Quality Improvement Manager
- Clinical Operations (Director, Manager, etc.)
- Clinical Lead/Champion
- Population Health Managers

Do I need to answer the Clinical Practice questions (questions 7 – 11 on the program form) to be eligible for recognition?

Yes. To be eligible for any award, all participants must submit data and respond to the attestation questions. However, “not sure” is a response option for all attestation criteria. Your answers to questions 7 – 11 will not affect your award level.

Where can I find support on answering the new Clinical Practice questions?

Please reach out to your local AHA representative for support in answering questions. You can also review the [Clinical Practice Questions Resource Guide](#).

I did not select the “Data Entry Complete” checkbox when I finished my data entry, and now we are past the submission deadline. Will my organization still be eligible for recognition?

Yes. Organizations with complete, error-free data submissions as of the deadline will still be included in the snapshot for that year’s recognition, even if the “Data Entry Complete” checkbox is unchecked.

How will I know if my health care organization has been recognized?

In the fall of each year, organizations will be notified of their recognition status via email. For more details on the benefits recognized organizations receive, please review the [Target: Type 2 Diabetes Recognition Fact Sheet](#).

DATA

How will this information be used?

Data will be used to track success rates and improvement according to the Target: Type 2 Diabetes program structure. Organizations that commit to improving and submit all required information will be eligible to receive achievement awards on an annual basis. Only those who give AHA permission to recognize them publicly will have their award level published.

If you have additional questions, please contact us at <http://bit.ly/AQContactUs>

