

Our second national conference

The Primary Care Diabetes Society of Australia (PCDSA) was delighted to hold its second annual conference on 6 May at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. The focus of the one-day event was on meeting the PCDSA's aim of supporting primary care health professionals to deliver high quality, clinically effective care to improve the lives of people living with diabetes.

The presentations had a strong practical focus, underpinned by a person-centred approach. The first session included presentations on the emotional health of people living with diabetes and how to engage this group of people, including through the use of digital health. The content included presentations from key allied health professionals involved in the care of people with diabetes in fields such as podiatry, optometry, dentistry, pharmacy and psychology.

The feedback that we received was extremely positive and, among the many suggestions for future conference content, were calls to include talks on sexual health, the management of diabetes in people who also have renal disease, hearing and diabetes, and complex client management. This has provided us not only with a bank of ideas for future events, but also for articles to include in future issues of our journal.

A summary of this year's conference has been provided in the current issue of *Diabetes & Primary Care Australia* by Mark Kennedy. Additionally, future journal issues will feature articles based on some of the presentations provided that day. Please bookmark the PCDSA website (www.pcdsa.com.au) so that you can return and read them, and keep a look out for information about next year's conference.

This issue covers some of the topics that the conference delegates were most interested in hearing about. One of the most commonly sought-after topics was the often under-discussed subject of sexual dysfunction. David

Edwards and Nicholas Forgione outline the identification and treatment of male and female sexual dysfunction in people with diabetes, and include guidance on how to take a sexual history. While research into female sexual dysfunction is unfortunately limited, I anticipate that this article will provide plenty of useful information for you to call upon in your practice.

Also included is a practical guide on the prevention of foot ulcers and lower extremity amputation in people with diabetes. Co-authored by myself and Jane Tennant, the article translates international guidelines into the Australian clinical setting in order to encourage their implementation.

Professor Merlin Thomas provides a simple framework to weigh up the comparative benefits and risks of sodium–glucose cotransporter 2 (SGLT2) inhibitors and dipeptidyl peptidase-4 (DPP-4) inhibitors, when added to metformin for the management of type 2 diabetes in Australian general practice.

Mike Kirby and Roy Rasalam provide a comprehensive overview of the management of dyslipidaemia in the context of diabetes, and this forms our CPD article for the issue. To test your understanding of this important topic and, to gain RACGP-accredited CPD points, take our free multiple-choice test at www.pcdsa.com.au/cpd. While you are there, I suggest you take a look at the growing list of educational modules that the PCDSA offers and see what might be of interest.

Finally, as part of our continuing support for the provision of a person-centred approach to diabetes care, our “From the other side of the desk” piece has been written by Tim Burnham, a professional drummer with diabetes. In it, he relates the personal and professional challenges that he has faced since diagnosis, and his experiences of using continuous glucose monitoring to address them.

We anticipate that this issue will provide you with plenty of useful, practical information to support your clinical care delivery. ■



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