

Title:

Looking beyond HbA1c: What outcomes matter to patients with type 1 diabetes and why?

Principal Investigator:

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Description of study:

A research team at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto would like to speak with people about their experiences with type 1 diabetes self-management, as well as their perspectives on self-management support and education. They want to know what challenges or facilitates type 1 diabetes self-management, and how they could better support people faced with navigating through challenges that arise in their everyday lives.

This study will use focus groups with people living with type 1 diabetes to find out about their self-management experiences. We will conduct focus groups in-person, at St. Michael's Hospital or virtually through videoconferencing. We anticipate each focus group session to last approximately 2 hours, in which participants have the opportunity to discuss what their experiences have been like living with diabetes, with emphasis on the supports and challenges that have helped or hindered their illness self-management.

Prior to participating in focus groups, over the phone we will ask participants a series of background questions about their clinical and social backgrounds. This will provide use with a better chance to know about the people we are recruiting (i.e. their demographic and clinical circumstances). Focus groups will be audio recorded and transcribed so that we do not miss any details of the conversations. Experienced qualitative researchers from the Applied Health Research Centre of St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto will moderate group discussions. Analysis of focus groups will seek to define what outcome measures are important from the perspectives of patients with type 1 diabetes, as well as what they value in terms of self-management support and education.

Eligibility:

Ontario residents between 18 years of age and over who have been diagnosed with type 1 diabetes.

Research Ethics:

If you have questions regarding your rights as a research participant, you may contact Dr. David Mazer, Chair of Research Ethics Board at St. Michael's Hospital (416-864-6060 ext. 2557) during business hours. The Research Ethics Board is required to do periodic review of ongoing research studies. As part of this review, someone may contact you from the Research Ethics Board to discuss your experience in the research study.

Contact:

If you would like to participate in this study, please contact study coordinator, Ben Markowitz, for more information. Email: markowitzb@smh.ca Phone: 416-360-4000, ext. 47127.