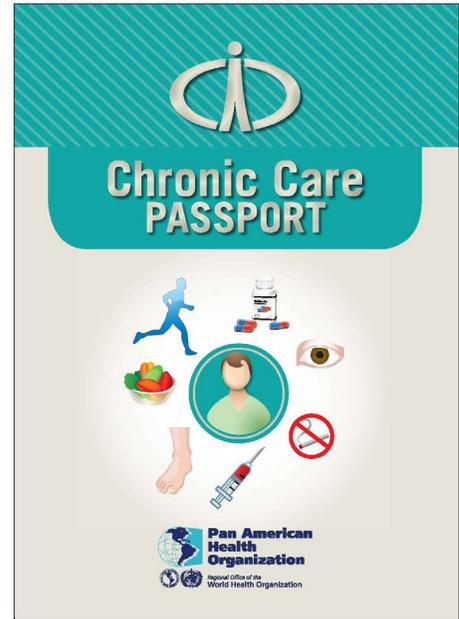


THE CHRONIC CARE PASSPORT

INTRODUCTION

- PAHO supports the strengthening of primary health care (PHC) and the integrated, population-based management of chronic diseases which features clinical guidelines and evidence-based protocols, monitoring, quality improvement and the organization of proactive care. PAHO recognizes the patient's central role in managing his or her health through self-management programs, supported by health policies and community organizations. Evidence shows that health outcomes improve when a team of health professionals provides patient centered care.



WHAT IS THE CHRONIC CARE PASSPORT?

- The Chronic Care Passport is a useful tool for implementing effective chronic care.



The Chronic Care Passport is a patient held card used by patients with chronic conditions such as diabetes, hypertension and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. The Chronic Care Passport was designed for the first level of care but can be used in other settings. The Chronic Care Passport emerged from PAHO's technical collaboration with many Member States. Demonstration projects have been established in 13 countries throughout the Americas including Antigua, Anguila, Argentina, Barbados, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Honduras, Jamaica, Paraguay, Santa Lucia, Suriname and Trinidad & Tobago.



ADVANTAGES OF USING THE CHRONIC CARE PASSPORT

- Provides a care plan to be followed by providers and clients
- Stimulates goal setting and patient participation in the process of care
- Promotes data collection, care monitoring and quality improvement
- Fosters preventive measures such as those for prostate, cervical and breast cancer
- Stimulates the measurement of Cardiovascular Global Risk
- Promotes integration between levels of care
- Contributes to life-style education
- Encourages planned interactions between patients and health care teams
- Provides with a meal plan
- Strengthens control and adherence to medication

EFFECTIVENESS OF THE CHRONIC CARE PASSPORT

A demonstration project including 1,060 randomly selected patients with diabetes using the Chronic Care Passport at the first level of care in eight countries is ongoing. This project is a collaboration of PAHO with the ministry of health and the diabetes association of participating countries supported by the World Diabetes Foundation (WDF). Preliminary results are promising. Comparing baseline to follow-up measures, it was reported:



- An important decrease in mean A1c (8.3% to 7.6%)
- Increase in the proportion of patients with A1c < 7% (32% to 40%) and with good blood pressure control (45% to 49%)
- A substantial increase in the proportion of patients with preventive practice such as nutritional advice (12% to 52%), foot exam (28% to 68%) or eye exam (21% to 61%)
- Overall the proportion of patients meeting 3 or more quality of care measures, increased from 12% to 56%

To find out more about diabetes in the Americas and PAHO's work, visit:



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