

Striving for equity in diabetes technology access

Tech-up Perspectives
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In this issue, we spotlight 3 key opinions about how individual circumstances may affect patient access to diabetes technology. You'll also find links to a [new podcast episode](#) about overcoming barriers to tech access and a [new article](#) about combating implicit bias in prescribing diabetes tech.



How can seeing each diabetes patient's individual circumstances contribute to treatment equity?

Not all people with diabetes have equal access to tech.¹ Our contributors offer their perspectives on promoting equity by seeing each patient in the context of their experiences. If these quotes intrigue you, follow the links to read or hear more.



I try not to make assumptions about people based on things like their age, education level, or experience with diabetes. I've seen senior citizens who've been completely comfortable reading a graph of their Ambulatory Glucose Profile (AGP), but I've also seen young working professionals who get stressed out at the mention of math.



Amy Hess-Fischl, MS, RDN, LDN, BC-ADM, CDCES

Read the full article: [Partnering with patients to unlock the potential of diabetes data](#)



I treat people at all levels of health literacy, and sometimes people don't know what they don't know. When I ask open-ended questions and leave plenty of room for patients to answer, it helps me meet them where they are.



Alicia Shelly, MD, FACP

Read the full article: [Creating "aha!" moments](#)



We have to keep in mind that access is often impacted by provider bias, where healthcare providers sometimes make an assumption that someone is not a good candidate for tech because they may have public insurance, they're low socioeconomic status, or because they're a person of color, or because their family are not native English speakers. I've heard many stories where they're not even talked to about diabetes technology options...^{1,2}



Amy Tenderich, MA, Founder of DiabetesMine

Hear the full podcast episode: [Text me, maybe](#)

All contributors received a fee from Novo Nordisk for their participation.

Latest on DiabetesTechUp.com



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PODCAST

Ep 9: Confronting in-tech-quity in diabetes

Our cohosts discuss access to diabetes technology and how it can be impacted by cost, provider assumptions, and social determinants of health.

20 min listen

[Listen now](#) →

ARTICLE

The tech-ephant in the room: Unpacking implicit bias in the prescription of diabetes tech

Inequities in access to diabetes tech can have many causes, including provider bias. Read how one provider addresses her own biases and assumptions to work toward equitable care.

Actor portrayal...

Alicia Shelly, MD, FACP | 6 min read

[Read the article](#) →

References:

1. Agarwal S, Simmonds I, Myers AK. The use of diabetes technology to address inequity in health outcomes: limitations and opportunities. *Curr Diab Rep*. 2022 Jul;22(7):275-281. doi:10.1007/s11892-022-01470-3
2. Addala A, Hanes S, Naranjo D, et al. Provider implicit bias impacts pediatric type 1 diabetes technology recommendations in the United States: Findings from The Gatekeeper Study. *J Diabetes Sci Technol*. 2021 Sep;15(5):1027-1033. doi:10.1177/19322968211006476

The Mission of Diabetes Tech-up™

Diabetes Tech-up™ is sponsored by Novo Nordisk, a global leader™ in diabetes. We believe that adoption of innovative technologies can help appropriate patients better manage diabetes. Our goal is to provide information to help providers on the front line of diabetes care strengthen their understanding of diabetes technologies and implement them where they can have the greatest impact.



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