

CHRONIC DISEASE CONNECTIONS

Chronic Disease Connections is an e-bulletin created for healthcare systems and providers working to prevent and manage chronic disease with a particular focus on blood pressure, diabetes and cholesterol control.

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Get Ready for Mental Health Awareness Month

Help the Iowa Healthiest State Initiative **Make It OK** in May with Mental Health Awareness Month. Mental Health Awareness Month is a great time to reduce stigma around mental illness by starting conversations for increasing understanding about mental health.

Check out the **free toolkit** for Make It OK partners to use throughout May. **This toolkit** – for use by workplaces, ambassadors and individuals – will give you the tools and resources to educate your networks about mental health with **Make It OK**.

Health Promotion in the News

Cardiovascular disease remains leading cause of death in type 2 diabetes- 66.3% of deaths among patient with type 2 diabetes was linked to cardiovascular conditions, researchers reported in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology.

Physician biases toward people with disability and implications for care delivery – Many physicians report low confidence in caring for patients with disability and negative perceptions about quality of life with a disability, which may reflect biased views that potentially contribute to persistent health disparities.

Black adults at higher risk of death from diabetes - Black individuals were more likely to die from diabetes than white individuals in the 30 biggest cities in the US. In Washington DC, the odds for mortality due to diabetes among Black residents was seven times greater than for white residents.

New lung cancer screening recommendation expands access but may not address inequities – Researchers call the US Preventive Services Task Force's newly released recommendation statement to expand eligibility for annual lung cancer screening a step forward, but say future changes should address equity and implementation issues.

Plan Clinic Activities for Upcoming Health Observations

April

Minority Health Month

World Immunization Week -
April 24-30

Prescription Drug Takeback Day – April 15

Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month

May

World Asthma Day – May 4

World Hand Hygiene Day – May 5

National High Blood Pressure Education Month

Skin Cancer Prevention Month

National Nurses Week – May 6-12

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Funding Opportunities on [IowaGrants.gov](https://iowagrants.gov)

- Request for Proposal #58822004 **Development of Diabetes Self-Management Education/Support (DSMES) Program** has posted on [IowaGrants.gov](https://iowagrants.gov). This RFP will enable the Department to select the most qualified applicants to provide development, implementation, and sustainability practices of diabetes self-management education/support (DSMES) programs. Applications will be accepted until 4:00PM on **May 13, 2021**.
- The Bureau of Chronic Disease Prevention and Management is accepting applications for **RFP 58822006 Clinical Innovations for Prediabetes Assessment and Referral**. This RFP seeks applicants who will plan and implement sustainable policy and systems change(s) to assess patients with prediabetes or patients who are at high risk for developing type 2 diabetes through screening and testing and to increase referrals to diabetes prevention programs (DPP).
- Applications for Request for Proposal **58821020 Iowa Cancer Plan Implementation & Consortium Management** are open through **April 26, 2021**. The purpose of this RFP is to solicit applications that will enable the Department to select the most qualified applicant to provide organizational, administrative, and leadership services for Iowa's cancer coalition and implement priority projects identified as part of the Iowa Cancer Plan.

Brain Injury Proclamation

Governor Reynolds officially proclaimed March as Brain Injury Awareness Month on March 22, 2021.

Visit the **Brain Injury Services Program** for more information about how the Department is working to improve the lives of Iowans living with brain injuries, and to provide feedback on the new state plan for brain injury.



Webinars

- **Utilizing community health workers and pharmacists to address health inequities** - Recorded
- **Findings from the RAPID national pandemic surveys of families with young children and childcare providers** – May 3rd

Million Hearts Resources

- **New NACHC hypertension screening and control Action Guide**
- **Culturally tailored resources for CHWs in African American communities**
- **Free CME courses related to the pandemic and cardiovascular disease**