

DIABETES AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

Diabetes is a condition that causes blood glucose (also called blood sugar) to rise to above normal levels.1



More than 37.3 million Americans have diabetes.²



Cardiovascular disease describes a range of conditions that affect the heart, including heart attacks and strokes.3

THE CONNECTION BETWEEN TYPE 2 DIABETES AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

People living with diabetes are twice as likely to develop and die from cardiovascular disease than people without diabetes.4



The longer you live with diabetes, the higher your cardiovascular disease risk.



People with type 2 diabetes often have risk factors for cardiovascular disease, including high blood pressure, high cholesterol, obesity, and a lack of physical activity.5



Diabetes can damage your blood vessels and the nerves that control your heart and blood vessels.6



Having diabetes increases your risk of heart attack or stroke even when blood glucose is well managed.⁵

KNOWING THE IMPACT OF DIABETES AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

Cardiovascular disease is the number one cause of death and major cause of heart attack, stroke and disability for people with type 2 diabetes.⁷



One in seven health care dollars is spent directly treating diabetes and its complications.8



At age 60, having type 2 diabetes and a history of heart attacks or strokes may have a life expectncy 12 years shorter than someone without both conditions.9

The total costs of diagnosed diabetes in the U.S. are \$327 billion.8

MANAGING TYPE 2 DIABETES AND REDUCING THE RISK OF CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE^{10,11}



Talk to your doctor about your diabetes and risk of heart disease and stroke.



Make healthy food choices, including a variety of vegetables and fruits in many different colors, lean meats and plantbased protein sources, and fiber-rich whole grains.



Get at least 30 minutes of physical activity each day.*



Monitor your blood glucose, blood pressure, cholesterol and weight.



Quit smoking.



Find healthy ways to manage stress, like meditation.

LEARN MUCH MORE AT AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION | DIABETES

*Consult a physician before starting a new exercise routine American Heart Association. "About Diabetes." Published August 2015.

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