Transition of Diabetes Care from The Children’s to the Adult’s Diabetes Clinic

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Abstract:
The transition of adolescents with type 1 diabetes mellitus (T1DM) from pediatric to adult care is a critical phase that requires special attention. A considerable proportion of adolescents encounters certain difficulties during this transition, which can negatively affect adjustment and glycemic control. Etiological factors include: (a) the adolescent’s separation anxiety elicited by the process of departing from the pediatrician who functions as a secure base in a period of developmental turmoil; (b) certain developmental factors that adversely affect glycemic control and the patient-physician cooperation; (c) the tendency of the adult diabetologist to focus more on medical than on psychosocial components; (d) the lack of the appropriate preparatory work which would: (i) help the adolescent to successfully cope with the difficulties that may arise due to the transition and (ii) make feasible the establishment of the proper pediatrician-adult diabetologist cooperation required for the development of a continuum in diabetes care through which the adolescent’s special needs can be best met. Practical propositions about certain basic problemsolving components concerning the transition from the pediatric to adult diabetes clinic are briefly discussed.

Biography:
Experienced Pediatrician with a demonstrated history of working in the medical practice industry. Skilled in Diabetes, Clinical Research, Medical Education, Pediatrics, and Hospitals. Strong healthcare services professional with a PhD focused in PKU from Medical School- University of Crete.

Publication of speakers: