



Understanding Diabetes Beyond Glucose Numbers: Complications & Co Morbidities

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Abstract:

Diabetes is a growing global health concern that affects all age groups and genders. Analysts predict a worldwide prevalence of 552 million people with diabetes by 2030. Uncontrolled diabetes can lead to acute complications, including but not limited to, hypoglycemia, hyperglycemia, diabetic coma, diabetic ketoacidosis, and diabetic non-ketotic hyperosmolar coma.

Recurrent ongoing hyperglycemia can lead to chronic complications. These complications occur due to a mix of microangiopathy, macro vascular disease, and immune dysfunction. Microangiopathy can affect all vital organs, including their kidneys, heart, and brain, as well as eyes, nerves, lungs, and local gums and feet. Macro vascular problems can lead to cardiovascular disease, stroke, and peripheral vascular disease leading to gangrene and amputation.

Type 2 diabetes has been disproportionately increasing in minority populations. Non-Caucasian populations such as Hispanics, African Americans, and Asians are much more likely to develop type 2 diabetes and less likely to have effective control. Certain ethnic populations have a higher risk of complications from diabetes than others. In addition to the societal and humanistic effects, the management of diabetes and its' complications has substantial economic impact. If diabetes is undetected or its complications are poorly managed, patients can experience a poor health-related quality of life with significant morbidity and mortality, so optimal prevention and treatment strategies are necessary. Adequate and sustained



control of blood sugar levels can prevent or delay the onset of diabetes-related complications. However, effective interventions, at both the individual and population levels, are desperately needed to slow the diabetes epidemic and reduce the burden of diabetes-related complications.

Biography:

Nuzhat Chalisa is an Endocrinologist, Author, Global speaker in Morris Health care system, USA. She is a Founder and President of Diabetes nonprofit "Kisat Diabetes Organization" that was started with the mission to prevent diabetes complications through early screening and education. I hope to expand the organization internationally, and to examine diabetes prevention from an intersectional lens.

Recent Publications:

1. Nuzhat Chalisa, Journal of diabetes and complications, 2019

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