



PROVIDER *bulletin*

December 1, 2009

RE: Diabetic Clinic

In keeping with Kern Health Systems' commitment to providing quality health care, we have developed a comprehensive diabetic clinic for the management of Type II Diabetes in conjunction with Kern Medical Center. The clinic is located at Sagebrush Medical Plaza, 1111 Columbus Street. It is designed to address all aspects of diabetic management including medications, diet, counseling, secondary diabetic complications, etc. We are hoping this will help primary care providers, who have to deal with this difficult problem on a day to day basis, by providing them with a single resource that will give patients the testing, education, follow-up and appropriate referrals they need. The clinic is staffed by physicians, pharmacists, nurse practitioners and nurse educators, and is available to those diabetics who have HbA1cs which are greater than 7. Referrals to this clinic can be made through KHS by the PCP or by Kern Health Systems directly.

As we continue to develop and improve the clinic, we would also like to ensure adequate communication between the diabetic clinic practitioners and Primary Care Physicians. By keeping each other informed of any changes in a patient's treatment plan, we can better manage the disease and improve the quality of care delivered. The clinic will provide the member with a list of their medications, take home instructions and follow up/return appointment date and time. KHS will send all progress notes to the member's PCP for insertion into their medical record. This will better inform the Primary Care Physician of the current disease management efforts and their effectiveness.

KHS is also committed to finding Primary Care Physicians who are willing to specialize in the diabetic care of our members. This would allow members to be assigned to a diabetic specialist, specifically for the care and management of diabetes in accordance with KHS clinical guidelines and expectations. If you are interested in becoming a Diabetic Specialist and would like more information, please contact our Provider Relations Department at (661)664-5146.

Sincerely,

Jake Hall
Provider Relations Supervisor
Kern Health Systems

