



# Working Together Locally and Globally for Better Care

## Improving diabetes outcome through collaborative and transdisciplinary strategies

### Tackling diabetes is central to addressing chronic disease

The Affordable Care Act mandates collaborative care to ensure coherent and effective treatment for patients with chronic conditions. Increasing quality of care, improving patient outcomes and reducing costs are all high priorities in local and global public health. Diabetes is a growing global challenge. One in 9 healthcare dollars is spent on diabetes worldwide, with \$612 billion dollars in 2014 for U.S. diabetes expenditure.



- **Phase One**

Integrating clinical and community services requires better coordination to close current gaps in treatment. Phase One will conduct a needs, knowledge and practice assessment, focusing on transdisciplinary, collaborative, clinical diabetes care, implementing teaching materials from the Population Health Certificate Program of the UNC Clinic Physician Network (see [uncpn.com](http://uncpn.com)).

- **Phase Two**

Using information gathered in Phase One, the educational program will draw on tools currently in development as well as state-of-the-art collaborative strategies to improve patient outcomes in treating diabetes. Diabetes was targeted because its trajectory continues to grow both in the U.S. and in developing countries—in particular, in China. Using educational processes tailored for implementation in Peking University International Hospital in Beijing, China, the project will track education and outcomes focusing on improving the health and well-being of individuals living with diabetes around the globe by creating a Population Health Certificate Program.

- **Phase Three**

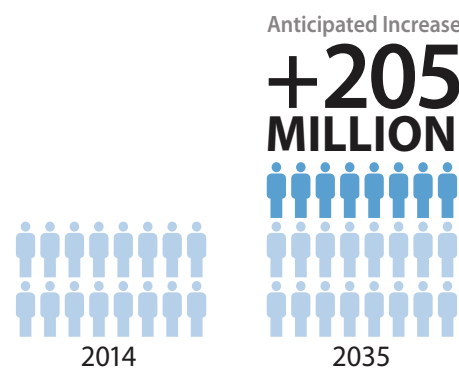
This projected two-year project, funded by the Gillings Gift, will work with the UNC Institute of Healthcare Quality to collect and analyze provider and patient pilot data to build both diabetes care programs and other collaborative disease treatment plans.

### Leadership



**Penny Gordon-Larsen, PhD**, is professor of nutrition in the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health. Her National Institutes of Health-funded research portfolio focuses on individual, household, and community susceptibility to obesity, and her work ranges from genetic factors to societal-level influences that shape obesity and its consequences.

### Global Increase in Diabetes



Source: IDF Diabetes Atlas, Sixth Edition, 2014 update

### IMPACT!

China and the U.S. account for a large proportion of diabetes cases worldwide, with comparative prevalences of diabetes of 9.39% in the U.S. and 8.64% in China. Despite its prevalence, success in controlling the disease is rare. Working on this project, a team of diabetes care experts from both countries will focus upon improving clinical collaboration and creating better outcomes as a model for fighting diabetes and other diseases.

### GOAL

To prepare clinical care providers to manage collaborative treatment of diabetes using the latest evidence-based guidelines and strategies. These tools will be applied both in the U.S. and China.

### PARTNERS

UNC Physician Practice Network  
Peking University Diabetes Center  
UNC School of Medicine  
UNC School of Nursing

