

Official Statement

Contact: Virginia Cramer, (703) 253-4927

press@diabetes.org

American Diabetes Association Statement on New York's Action to Eliminate Insulin Copays

ARLINGTON, Va. (April 22, 2024) – New York has eliminated cost-sharing for insulin in state-regulated health plans. In response Monica Billger, state government affairs director at the American Diabetes Association[®] (ADA), issued the following statement.

"The American Diabetes Association is excited to celebrate a first in our nation. New York has taken a transformative step in the state budget to address medication affordability and accessibility by eliminating cost-sharing for insulin in state-regulated health plans. The ADA, in partnership with an amazing community of Diabetes Advocates, has long-led the fight to make diabetes treatment more affordable, effectively championing lowering patient cost-sharing for insulin in 25 states and the District of Columbia. We know that an individual's ability to manage diabetes and prevent life-threatening complications is directly tied to their ability to access the medication they so desperately need. On behalf of the American Diabetes Association and over 1.8 million adult New Yorkers with diagnosed diabetes, I want to thank Governor Kathy Hochul and members of the Assembly and Senate for their leadership in working towards greater health equity and supporting a healthier future for New Yorkers with diabetes."

Medical costs for people in the U.S. living with diabetes increased by 35% over the past ten years. Americans with diabetes have medical expenses approximately 2.6 times higher than those without diabetes. In addition, one in six Americans report having rationed their insulin due to cost, either taking less than they need or skipping doses. This puts their health and potentially their life at risk.

In New York, approximately 1,827,200 adults, or 11.7% of the adult population, have diagnosed diabetes. Additionally, an estimated 92,000 are newly diagnosed with diabetes every year. The ADA has been an advocate for this policy change, and we would like to offer a Zoom interview with Monica Billger, who can speak to the significance of this decision and the impact it will have on many New Yorkers.

To schedule an interview, contact press@diabetes.org.

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About the American Diabetes Association

The American Diabetes Association (ADA) is the nation's leading voluntary health organization

2451 Crystal Drive Suite 900 Arlington, VA 22202



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fighting to bend the curve on the diabetes epidemic and help people living with diabetes thrive. For 83 years, the ADA has driven discovery and research to treat, manage, and prevent diabetes while working relentlessly for a cure. Through advocacy, program development, and education we aim to improve the quality of life for the 136 million Americans living with diabetes or prediabetes. Diabetes has brought us together. What we do next will make us Connected for Life[®]. To learn more or to get involved, visit us at diabetes.org or call 1-800-DIABETES (1-800-342-2383). Join the fight with us on Facebook (American Diabetes Association), Spanish Facebook (Asociación Americana de la Diabetes), LinkedIn (American Diabetes Association), Twitter (@AmDiabetesAssn), and Instagram (@AmDiabetesAssn).