Strategic Clinical Networks (SCNs) are creating improvements within focused areas of health care.

To get the most out of our health care system, AHS has developed networks of people who are passionate and knowledgeable about specific areas of health, challenging them to find new and innovative ways of delivering care that will provide better quality, better outcomes and better value for every Albertan.

The Diabetes Inpatient Management Initiative is a priority for the Diabetes, Obesity & Nutrition SCN. Hyperglycemia is currently common in hospitals. It is associated with poor health outcomes for the patient.

In Alberta hospitals, patients with diabetes are hyperglycemic over 1/3 of the time.

1 in 5 has diabetes of all adult patients in Alberta hospitals.

Patients with diabetes spend on average 5 days in hospital compared to 3 days for non-diabetic patients.

Expected outcomes:
- more satisfied patients
- reduced rates of hyperglycemia & hypoglycemia in hospital
- fewer medical complications and infections
- smoother transitions – community to hospital, hospital to community
- shorter length of hospital stay
- 1/2 bed day saved per patient could result in 22,000+ days returned to the system per year

In-hospital blood sugar target range 5 – 10 mmol/L.

Supporting patients to maintain their blood sugar targets.

Care team:
- standardized insulin ordering practice
- diabetes education
- safe insulin pump therapy management
- blood sugar management policy/guidelines
- safe management of diabetic ketoacidosis
- surgical guidelines

Food and nutrition services:
- carbohydrate information on meals/snacks

Pharmacy:
- simplified insulin formulary is in place
- insulin dispensing is patient-specific

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