

## Diabetes care in the North America and Caribbean (NAC) region during the COVID-19 pandemic

*International Diabetes Federation-Panamerican Health Organization webinar*

Date and time: 30<sup>th</sup> March 2021, 10:00 EDT

Setting the scene	
10:00-10:05	<b>Dr Timotheus Dorh, IDF NAC Chair 2020-2021</b> Webinar introduction
10:05-10:10	<b>Dr Anselm Hennis, Director of the PAHO NCD and Mental Health Department</b> Opening statement
10:10-10:12	<b>Dr Timotheus Dorh, IDF NAC Chair 2020-2021</b> Introduction of the panelists
Discussion panel	
10:12-10:17	<b>Dr Glasgow, Physician/diabetologist (Saint Lucia)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Challenges faced while trying to provide diabetes care since the COVID-19 pandemic started</li> <li>Copying mechanisms</li> <li>Opportunities provided by the COVID-19 pandemic to improve care moving forward</li> </ul>
10:17-10:22	<b>Ms Betsy Rodríguez, Nurse and Diabetes Educator (US)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting deployed staff to reach underserved communities during the pandemic</li> <li>Developing audience-specific resources on COVID-19</li> <li>Developing web content for community health workers</li> </ul>
10:22-10:27	<b>Ms Lurline Less, Diabetes Association of Jamaica</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Main needs of membership during the COVID-19 pandemic</li> <li>The role of the diabetes associations in addressing the issues arisen during the COVID-19 pandemic</li> </ul>
10:27-10:32	<b>Ms Diana Novelo Alzina, IDF Young Leader in Diabetes living with type 1 diabetes (Mexico)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social, financial and health impact of COVID-19</li> <li>COVID-19 impact on healthy lifestyles and diabetes prevention and management</li> <li>Advice for people living with diabetes during the COVID-19 pandemic</li> </ul>
10:32-10:37	<b>Mr Michael Donohoe, IDF Blue Circle Voice member living with type 2 diabetes (US)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social, financial and health impact of COVID-19</li> <li>Advice for people living with diabetes during the COVID-19 pandemic</li> </ul>
10:37-10:57	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
10:57-11:00	<b>Dr Timotheus Dorh, IDF NAC Chair 2020-2021</b> Closing remarks and thanks

## HOSTS BIOGRAPHIES

### **DR TIMOTHEUS DORH**

NAC Chair, International Diabetes Federation



Dr Dorh obtained his Bachelors of Medicine from the University of Medical Sciences in Pinar del Rio, Cuba, in 2011. Since then, he has worked as a Senior House Officer in the Emergency department at the Victoria hospital. In 2013, he became accredited by the Caribbean Association of Medical Councils.

He has since furthered his education with a certificate in Leadership and Management from the University of Washington, a certificate in Emergency Ultrasonography from the Developing EM group of the USA, and a Masters in Family Medicine from the University of Edinburgh. He works as medical officer for regional organization and holds board level positions on a few private and public companies in St Lucia.

He is the Chair of the North America and Caribbean (NAC) Region of the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) for 2020 to 2021 and Past President of the St Lucia Hypertension and Diabetes Association. He has a passion for helping people and advocating for the underrepresented in our society.

### **DR ANSELM HENNIS**

Director, Director of the PAHO/WHO Department on NCDs and Mental Health

Dr Hennis' Department coordinates activities on non-communicable diseases and related risk factors, nutrition, violence and injuries, road safety, disabilities, and mental health and illicit substance use throughout the Americas.



He graduated in Medicine from the University of the West Indies (UWI), and qualified in Internal Medicine in the UK. Dr. Hennis was Wellcome Trust Clinical Epidemiology Fellow to the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London, where he obtained MSc and PhD degrees in Epidemiology. He has been Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology at the University of the West Indies, as well as Research Associate Professor in Preventive Medicine at Stony Brook University, NY. Dr. Hennis has collaborated on several NIH grants on research into eye diseases, diabetes (including gestational diabetes); cardiovascular disease, population genetics, cancer and social disparities of health. He led the establishment of a national NCD surveillance system and the

population-based cancer registry in Barbados and authored/co-authored more than 150 peer-reviewed papers.

Dr. Hennis has spent his career working to tackle NCDs through clinical practice, research and publication, teaching, working collaboratively with civil society, and through public health practice.

## PANELLISTS BIOGRAPHIES

### **DR TAKIRA GLASGOW**

Physician and diabetologist (Saint Lucia)



Dr. Takira Glasgow graduated from Mc Gill University with her first degree and the University of the West Indies with her medical degree. She completed her Masters in Diabetes with Distinction in the UK.

After working at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Barbados and Victoria Hospital, St. Lucia, her private office located at Tapion was opened in 2012 where she has been managing clients with diabetes almost exclusively since then. Her memberships include the American Association of Clinical Endocrinology, and associate membership of the Royal College of Physicians.

Her publications and articles have appeared in the Journal of Biomedical Science and Engineering, Business Focus magazine and the Bar Association's publication "The Brief". She has appeared on local radio and television programmes including "Your Diabetes Health" and "Health Notes".

### **MS LURLINE LESS**

Diabetes Association of Jamaica Chairman



Lurline Less is the Chairman of the Diabetes Association of Jamaica where she has been a member for the past 30 years and a volunteer for 20 years.

She has a bachelor's degree in Health Administration and Master of Philosophy degree in Diabetology (specializing in diabetes education). Her work is dedicated to the cause of diabetes, and makes contribution in the area of lay diabetes education as well as a full diabetes service delivery centre.

Her interest is to improve lives of persons with diabetes through education, equity in access to care and improvement in quality of care in diabetes management. She has been living with diabetes for over 30 years and is married with 2 children 20 and 18 years of age.

### **MS DIANA ESTEPHANÍA NOVELO ALZINA**

IDF Young Leader in Diabetes living with type 1 diabetes (Mexico)



Diana is a 29 years old dietitian and diabetes educator from Yucatan, Mexico, living with type 1 diabetes since 2010.

She volunteers in the *Asociación Mexicana de Diabetes en el Sureste*, A. C. since 2014, nowadays as Council's Secretariat. She also collaborates with the Mexican Diabetes Federation, writing for the *Diabetes Hoy* magazine and supporting other activities, and on the national movement *Por Una Sola Voz en la Diabetes Tipo 1*. Since 2017, she is engaged on the IDF Young Leaders in Diabetes program, in which she is the Representative of the NAC region.

She currently works providing diabetes education and nutritional care in a private practice, giving support to a group of seniors at their home, in the Coordination of the Dietetics Career at *Universidad Marista de Mérida*, and studies a Teaching Specialty at the

*Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán.*

## **MS BETSY RODRÍGUEZ**

Nurse and diabetes educator (USA)



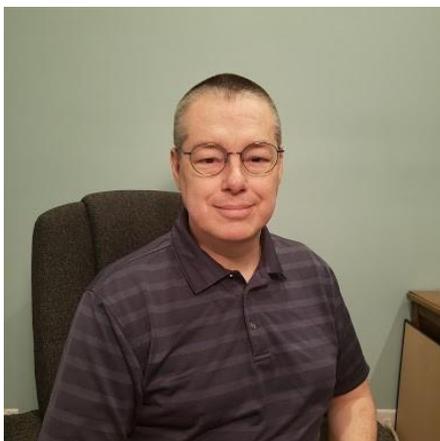
Betsy Rodriguez, RN, MSN, DCEs has more than 20 years of professional experience, is a nurse, certified diabetes educator, bicultural specialist in health communication strategies and the development of diabetes educational resources for Hispanics/Latinos and other minority ethnic groups.

She is a senior advisor for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the Diabetes Division. She holds a master's degree in science of nursing with a primary role as a clinical specialist and secondary roles in education and administration. She is certified in gerontology nursing, chronic disease care, Human-Centered Design and adaptive leadership. She is a national and international speaker on diabetes-related topics, and author.

Betsy is also a member of the IDF Blue Circle Voices network, an active member of the Association of Diabetes Care and Education Specialists (ADCES) where he serves as part of several working groups: Favorably Reviewed, Inclusion Council, Diabetes-Related Technology Disparities, and the Skills Reviewer Group of Professionals Who Are Not Certified Diabetes Educators. She is a former chairman of the National Health Disparity Committee of the American Diabetes Association (ADA). In collaboration with ADA and ADCES, she is leading the national initiative to develop a marketing identity for diabetes care and education and support services (DSMES Brand) for people with diabetes. Betsy is a part-time pancreatic mother. She is the director of the Communications Task Force of IDF Region SACA. She is the president of the Puerto Rican Association of Diabetes Educators. Ms. Rodríguez was born and raised in Villalba, Puerto Rico. She has two children with her 43-year-old husband, Dr. Hedwig Borges, and five grandchildren.

## **MR MICHAEL DONOHOE**

IDF Blue Circle Voices member living with type 2 diabetes (USA)



Michael Donohoe is a volunteer advocate for the International Diabetes Federation Blue Circle Voices. He was diagnosed in 1996 with type 2 diabetes; also, he lives with CVD, diabetic retinopathy, CKD, diabetic nerve pain, and other related conditions. Michael is driven to create change through awareness, education as well as policy change.

In addition to his BCV commitment, Michael is the chair for Lions Club International MD20-E2 District Diabetes Awareness & Action. Recently, he has served as a patient advocate attendee/blog writer for the #dedoc voices at ISPAD 2020, patient advocacy panelist on the topic of "Telehealth & COVID-19" for the Digital Health Coalition and WEGO Health and a participant/moderator for the World Health Organizations Informal Consultation with People Living with

Diabetes (PWLD). In 2020. Michael earned his Diabetes Paraprofessional I Certification from the Association of Diabetes Care and Education Specialists (ADCES). He the founder of A1C Wellness [Diabetes...], an NCD-focused firm providing marketing program management and policy services, as well as a healthcare communications consultant specializing in the areas of marketing project management and digital production leadership.

Michael is married to Kerri and is the father of five children (23 to 16), and stepfather to two (15 & 12).