Policy recommendations to improve access to diabetes care in BRAZIL

In 2015, there were 14.3 million adults with diabetes in Brazil, 5.7 million of whom were not diagnosed. More than 13,000 people died in the country that year due to diabetes-related complications. Many of these deaths could have been prevented with better access to care.

In order to stem the advance of the diabetes epidemic in the country, the International Diabetes Federation (IDF), ADJ (Associação de Diabetes Juvenil), FENAD (Federação Nacional das Associações e Entidades de Diabetes), SBD (Sociedade Brasileira de Diabetes) and ANAD (Associação Nacional de Atenção ao Diabetes) request that the Brazilian government improve the existing National Diabetes Plan by:

1. Increasing the budget dedicated to fund all aspects of diabetes care
2. Improving the availability and affordability both of essential medicines and supplies as well as innovative medicines and technologies, specifically:
   - Enforce Federal Law 11347/06 that guarantees government distribution of essential medicines and supplies free of charge, so diabetes patients do not need to make out-of-pocket payments
   - Improve availability of insulin analogues and start the government provision of glucagon
   - Increase the government provision of affordable innovative medicines and technologies that can improve the health outcomes of people with diabetes (e.g. DPP4 inhibitors, insulin pump, continuous glucose monitoring...)
   - Prevent the shortage of, and guarantee the access to, glucometers and reactive test strips
3. Implementing a national screening program, together with an education program for people at high risk of diabetes and for healthcare professionals to ensure that all Brazilians have access to high-quality care including:
   - The establishment of a multi-health professional group in the main hospitals of the country, to ensure all patients have access to the right treatments
   - The set-up of more centers dedicated to educate young people diagnosed with type 1 and type 2 diabetes around the country, as this segment of the population is not receiving good quality assistance in the vast majority of Brazilian states

The policy recommendations in this document are based on information extracted from:
- The IDF Blue Circle Voices network's first consultation;
- The IDF Access to Medicines report, which has been developed with the input of 80 IDF Members from around the world;
- Feedback from IDF's national Members.