

# DIABETES: NURSES MAKE THE DIFFERENCE



As the numbers of people with diabetes continues to rise across the world, **the role of nurses and other health professional support staff becomes increasingly important in managing the impact of the condition.** Nurses play a key role in identifying and diagnosing diabetes early, providing self-management training and psychological support to help prevent complications and tackling the risk factors for type 2 diabetes to help prevent the condition.

There remains a significant need for more education and funding to equip nurses around the world with the skills to provide the support that people living with diabetes and those at risk of developing type 2 diabetes require.

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**On behalf of people living with, and affected by diabetes, IDF requests national governments to recognise and advance the role of nurses in diabetes care by acting on the following three areas:**

## ENSURE QUALITY OF NURSING EDUCATION

- Include sufficient training in **diabetes diagnosis** and care in nursing studies curricula
- Invest in the speciality of **diabetes nursing** (training and recognition)
- Provide opportunities to further **diabetes education** throughout the nursing career
- Invest in the **professional development of diabetes nurses** to tackle diabetes complications and reduce the global health costs of diabetes

## INVEST IN THE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF NURSES

- **Recruit a sufficient number** of nurses to guarantee appropriate diabetes care
- Strengthen the health systems through a **sustainable diabetes nursing workforce** equipped to meet the needs of the diabetes population and the rising demands for diabetes care

## MAXIMISE THE CONTRIBUTION OF NURSES IN PROVIDING PREVENTATIVE AND PRIMARY CARE

- Ensure diabetes nurses receive high quality training to ensure that **diabetes prevention programmes** are activated and optimised
- **Train nurses to identify people at risk** of developing type 2 diabetes and provide them with counselling
- Prioritise the contribution of diabetes nurses to **primary and community health care systems**



**1** **Reach out** to policy-makers



**2** **Promote the IDF** call to action in local media



**3** **Support the IDF** call to action on social media



**4** **Support nurses** in your community by highlighting their work on social media