Diabetes Awareness in the Education Setting

Andrew Levy  
*Worcester Polytechnic Institute*

Cullen McCarthy  
*Worcester Polytechnic Institute*

Gillian Nadeau  
*Worcester Polytechnic Institute*

Trevor Rizzo  
*Worcester Polytechnic Institute*

Adam Sargent  
*Worcester Polytechnic Institute*

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Diabetes In Massachusetts Schools
Andrew Levy (CS) Cullen McCarthy (BME) Gillian Nadeau (BME) Trevor Rizzo (RBE) Adam Sargent (CS)
Advisors: Professors Jill Ruif and Helen G Vassallo

Introduction
- 293,000 children get diagnosed with diabetes every year (1)
- Often school faculty and staff feel they are not adequately trained (2)
- Many school systems cannot afford full time nurses
- If a student goes into shock it is life-threatening

Problem Statement
- Diabetic students in Massachusetts, do not always have immediate access to insulin in emergencies

Project Goals
- Bring awareness to the issue
- Successfully advocate for a change in the laws
- Get the attention and support of Massachusetts Legislatures

Approach
- Advocate for a law that allows certified teachers the ability to administer insulin in the case of an emergency

Collaborate with local PTOs, local branches of ADA, and the JDRF.

Create thought invoking social media campaign with partners.

Use new awareness to generate signatures for petition.

Fig. 1
Number of School Related Diabetes Hospitalizations

Fig. 2
Cases of T1D Diagnosed in MA vs. Year

Predicted Results
- Raised awareness
- New legislation enacted regarding the administration of insulin in school
- Less diabetes related emergencies in schools

Conclusion and Recommendations
- Insulin administration needs adjustment
- Advocating is an effective way to pass legislation
- Law should be reassessed each decade
- Social media campaigns reach a vast audience

References