

**MHN JOINS NATIONAL CALL TO ACTION URGING AMERICANS WITH DIABETES TO
ACHIEVE TARGET BLOOD SUGAR LEVELS**

-- National initiative focuses on an A1C<7% for optimal diabetes management --

WASHINGTON, D.C., November 14, 2002 – Today, The Men’s Health Network joined nearly two dozen leading advocacy and medical organizations and key policymakers, including Tommy Thompson, Secretary of Health and Human Services, in support of a national public health initiative to help the more than 17 million Americans with diabetes achieve target blood sugar levels.

The new program, known as *Aim. Believe. Achieve: The Diabetes A1c Initiative™*, is focusing on educating people about A1C – the gold standard for measuring blood glucose control over a two-month period – and motivating them to achieve an A1C of less than 7%, which is the recommended medical target for optimal blood sugar control.

“Men’s Health Network is proud to be a part of the Aim. Believe. Achieve initiative to educate Americans about the A1c levels”, says Tracie Snitker, Director of Public Affairs, Men’s Health Network. “Because of their general lack of health knowledge, and high-risk for diabetes, we believe it’s important to convey this message to men.”

The event in Washington, D.C., and around the country were hosted in partnership with the American Association of Diabetes Educators (AADE), the International Diabetes Centers (IDC) and Take Control of Your Diabetes (TCOYD) and supported by Aventis Pharmaceuticals.

For more information on this initiative, or A1c visit www.diabeteswatch.com/A1c.

The Men’s Health Network is a non-profit educational organization comprised of physicians, researchers, public health workers, individuals and other health professionals. MHN is committed to improving the health and wellness of men through education campaigns, data collection and work with health care providers to provide better programs and funding on men’s health needs. Additional questions or comments should be referred to info@menshealthnetwork.org or by calling (202) 543-6461.

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