

bdi national survey

Finds a
Patient/Physician
Communication
Gap

A recent national phone survey found an unsettling communications gap between physicians and people with type 2 diabetes when talking about weight management. **Eight in 10 physicians surveyed said that they discuss weight issues with their patients every/almost every visit, yet half as many patients – only four in 10 – report having these discussions with such frequency.**



National Survey Results January 2009

Physicians and Patients: Type 2 Diabetes and Weight Survey

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), nearly **24 million people** in the United States, nearly eight percent of the population, have diabetes. Estimates show that another **57 million people have pre-diabetes**, a condition that puts people at increased risk for diabetes. In addition, about two-thirds of U.S. adults – **133.6 million – are overweight**. Of these, 63.3 million are obese.

The Behavioral Diabetes Institute and Amylin Pharmaceuticals collaborated on the design of a national survey, which was sponsored by Amylin Pharmaceuticals and conducted by Yankelovich, part of The Futures Company. The phone survey contacted 200 physicians treating patients with type 2 diabetes each month, and 703 adults with type 2 diabetes

Physicians agree that moderate weight loss will help patients manage their type 2 diabetes, but the survey finds that the communication gap between patients and physicians, along with other barriers, is making weight loss difficult.

Eight in 10 physicians surveyed said that they discuss weight issues with their patients almost every visit, yet only four in 10 patients report having these discussions with such frequency. In particular, roughly half of overweight patients and a third of obese patients say their physician seldom or never discusses their weight with them.

Get the Facts

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and
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To read more about the survey, visit the following web pages:

www.behavioraldiabetes.org/research-information-about-Diabetes-Weight-Issues.html

Survey Press Release (PDF):

www.behavioraldiabetes.org/downloads/Diabetes-Weight-Issues-Survey-Press-Release-2009-01.pdf

Detailed Survey Fact Sheet (PDF):

www.behavioraldiabetes.org/downloads/Diabetes-Weight-Issues-Survey-Fact-Sheet-2009-01.pdf

Survey Results Presentation Slides (PDF):

www.behavioraldiabetes.org/downloads/Diabetes-Weight-Issues-Survey-Results-2009-01.pdf