

Active ADA-Supported Research in WASHINGTON (Type 1 Diabetes)



Davene Renee Wright, PhD

Institution: Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center

Project: Promoting Adolescent Investment in Diabetes Care

Award end date: 12/31/2020

Award type: Innovative Clinical or Translational Science

Dr. Wright is an Acting Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Washington and an Investigator within the Center for Child Health, Behavior and Development at Seattle Children's Hospital. She is also an affiliate of the Program in Health Economics and Outcomes Methodology at the University of Washington. Dr. Wright received her PhD in Health Policy from Harvard University and is trained in health economics and decision science research methodologies. Her research focuses on evaluating whether financial incentives could encourage teens with type 1 diabetes mellitus (T1DM) to test their blood sugar more often. Despite doctors' best efforts, over 80% of teenagers with T1DM cannot maintain recommended glycemic control targets. Poor glycemic control can result in short-term complications and hospitalization, debilitating long-term chronic complications (i.e., blindness, kidney failure), and high healthcare costs. Capitalizing on researcher expertise in health economics, endocrinology, psychology, and ethics, this study will systematically determine the type, amount, and structure of incentives that would be sufficient to improve T1DM self-care among teens. A clinical trial conducted in pediatric diabetes clinics in Seattle, WA will assess the impact of incentives on adolescents' adherence to best practices for self-care and management of T1DM.