This information is intended for media professionals and investors

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**What is Diabetes?**

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Diabetes occurs when the pancreas produces little or no insulin, or when the pancreas produces insulin but it is resisted by the body. Insulin is the hormone responsible for helping tissues use glucose (sugar), the body's energy source. Without an adequate supply of insulin, a person with diabetes is unable to keep glucose levels in balance. Poor glucose control can lead to hypoglycemia (low blood glucose), a condition that, if poorly managed, can result in coma or in rare cases, even death - or hyperglycemia, a condition associated with higher-than-normal blood glucose, which can contribute to long-term complications, including blindness, kidney failure and amputation. Diabetes is also a major factor in both cardiovascular disease and impotence. The two most common forms of diabetes are type 1 diabetes and type 2 diabetes.

**Type 1 Diabetes**

Type 1 diabetes was previously called insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (IDDM) or juvenile-onset diabetes. Type 1 diabetes develops when the body's immune system destroys pancreatic beta cells, the only cells in the body that make the hormone insulin that regulates blood glucose. To survive, people with type 1 diabetes must have insulin delivered by injection or a pump.

Type 1 diabetes usually strikes children and young adults, although disease onset can occur at any age. In adults, type 1 diabetes accounts for 5 -10 percent of all diagnosed cases of diabetes. About one in every 400 children and adolescents has type 1 diabetes. Risk factors for type 1 diabetes may be autoimmune, genetic, or environmental. There is no known way to prevent type 1 diabetes. Several clinical trials for preventing type 1 diabetes are currently in progress or are being planned.

**Type 2 Diabetes**

Type 2 diabetes was previously called non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (NIDDM) or adult onset diabetes. In adults, type 2 diabetes accounts for about 90 - 95 percent of all diagnosed cases of diabetes. It usually begins as insulin resistance, a disorder in which the cells do not use insulin properly. As the need for insulin rises, the pancreas gradually loses its ability to produce it. Type 2 diabetes is associated with older age,
obesity, family history of diabetes, history of gestational diabetes, impaired glucose metabolism, physical inactivity, and race/ethnicity. African Americans, Hispanic/Latino Americans, American Indians, and some Asian Americans and Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islanders are at particularly high risk for type 2 diabetes and its complications. Type 2 diabetes in children and adolescents, although still rare, is being diagnosed more frequently among American Indians, African Americans, Hispanic/Latino Americans, and Asians/Pacific Islanders.

**Pre-Diabetes**

Pre-diabetes is a condition where individuals have higher than normal glucose levels.

**Diabetes Facts**

- The International Diabetes Federation (IDF) estimates that 285 million people have diabetes worldwide and it is expected to affect 435 million people by 2030.
- In the United States, the American Diabetes Association (ADA) estimates that nearly 24 million people (8 percent of the population) have diabetes. The total prevalence of diabetes increased 13.5 percent from 2005-2007.
  - 17.9 million Americans are diagnosed
  - 5.7 million Americans are undiagnosed
  - 57 million Americans are estimated to have pre-diabetes
  - 1.6 million new cases of diabetes were diagnosed in Americans 20 years or older in 2007.
- The incidence of type 1 diabetes in children is growing, at a rate of three percent worldwide, and 5 percent worldwide in pre-school age children.
- Every 10 seconds a person dies from diabetes-related causes according to the IDF
- Every 10 seconds two people develop diabetes according to the IDF
- Diabetes is the fourth leading cause of global death by disease, and the second most common disease for children, according to the IDF.
- The average life expectancy for a diabetes patient is up to 15 years less than that of the general population.

**Economic Costs of Diabetes**

- According to the IDF Diabetes Atlas, mortality from diabetes, heart disease and stroke cost about $376 billion in 2010 and this number is expected to rise to $490 billion by 2030.

- In the United States, the total annual economic cost of diabetes in 2007 was estimated to be $174 billion. Medical expenditures totaled $116 billion and were comprised of $27 billion for diabetes care, $58 billion for chronic diabetes-related complications, and $31 billion for excess general medical costs, according to the ADA.