

American Indian Diabetes and Practices: Maternal Care, Infant Mortality, and Adherence



In the presence of potent drugs and wide-spread health education information, diabetes prevalence should be falling. Since it is not, other factors promoting diabetes must be operating. Other sources for increasing prevalence rates are non-obvious socio-cultural factors specific to Native peoples.

This project will elicit Explanatory Models of diabetes during pregnancy from pregnant diabetics, pregnant non-diabetics, and their health care providers.

University of Oklahoma interdisciplinary teams have partnered with the Choctaw Nation, the Chickasaw Nation, the Oklahoma City Area Inter-Tribal Health Board, and the Southern Plains Epidemiology Center to delineate these Explanatory Models and disseminate the information to health care providers.

Reducing health disparities by
preventing or delaying diabetes in
American Indians and Alaskan
Natives.

Principal Investigator:

J. Neil Henderson, (Oklahoma Choctaw)
Ph.D.

American Indian Diabetes Prevention Center
801 NE 13th Street
CHB 450
Oklahoma City, OK 73104

Phone: (405) 271-7500

Fax: (405) 271-7501

E-mail: Neil-Henderson@ouhsc.edu

In spite of today's most advanced medical treatments, prevention campaigns, and health promotion strategies prevalence rates for diabetes mellitus, pre-gestational diabetes mellitus, and gestational diabetes mellitus are persistent and rising for American Indian and Alaskan Native populations.