The Who, What, When, Where, and Why

Many health professionals can deliver diabetes self-management education, but the highest quality option for your patients is the health professional who has taken the extra step to become certified in diabetes education. A Certified Diabetes Educator (CDE) will complement the care you provide by supporting the day-to-day efforts of your patients to manage their diabetes.

Who are Certified Diabetes Educators?
CDEs are health professionals who have demonstrated their knowledge and skill in diabetes self-management education providing at least 1,000 hours of patient education, passing a rigorous exam, and maintaining this highly respected credential in the health care industry.

What do CDEs do?
A Certified Diabetes Educator partners with your patient to create a customized plan focused on empowering the individual to take control and better manage his or her diabetes.

When should I refer my patients to a CDE?
Refer your patients right away and during the transitions of important life stages. Ongoing support from a CDE complements the care you provide and builds the skills needed to promote better diabetes outcomes.

Where can I find a CDE?
The National Certification Board for Diabetes Educator (NCBDE), the organization administering the CDE program, offers an online CDE locator service. Visit www.ncbde.org to find a CDE near you or contact NCBDE for more information.

Why should I refer my patients to a CDE?
Diabetes self-management education from a Certified Diabetes Educator (CDE) makes patient face-time with you more efficient. CDEs support your patients’ efforts in achieving better control – decreasing short- and long-term complications that cause unnecessary and expensive pain and suffering.