Live Healthy…Work Well: Managing your Diabetes

The Hawai`i Demonstration to Maintain Independence and Employment Live Healthy – Work Well project was funded by the Center on Medicare and Medicaid Services and is a joint endeavor between the Hawai`i State Department of Human Services (DHS), the University of Hawai`i at Manoa – Center on Disability Studies (UH-CDS), the Hawai`i State Department of Health (DOH) and the Hawai`i Business Health Council (HBHC). These agencies are collaborating with public and private employers, employee groups, and their health care providers in a comprehensive community-based effort to assist individuals who are at high risk of becoming disabled or unemployed as a result of diabetes. The partnership is using promising and emerging practices to identify and support persons, ages 18 through 60 years, with potentially disabling and medically determinable physical impairments as a result of diabetes, who are: (1) currently employed not less that 40 hours per month at Federal minimum wage or an acceptable equivalent, and (2) currently at risk of experiencing a reduction in hours or loss of employment and/or health coverage due to their disabilities.

The Project is addressing the question: can a program of medical assistance and other supports forestall or prevent the loss of employment and independence due to a potentially disabling and medically determinable condition? Specifically, the project is developing and implementing a comprehensive community-based employment maintenance effort for individuals with diabetes who are at high risk of becoming disabled (i.e., becoming unemployed). The Project is using a Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT) design and intended to randomly assign 534 participants from the above described populations to two equally sized study groups of 267 participants. The groups will be: (1) a control group – Business as Usual will consist of persons not receiving any
intervention services, supports, or effects other than those for which they are eligible either through standard work practices or other means, (2) a treatment group who will experience coaching from pharmacists and life coaches along with a menu of other services consisting of life and employment supports.

The poster presentation will provide an overview of the project and highlight the recruitment strategies implemented. The various recruitment efforts of the project will be discussed and there will be an analysis of which efforts were most successful. The analysis will also focus on how the recruitment strategies affected final enrollment figures. The results of a literature review will help to determine the best practices for recruitment of participants into a randomized controlled trial.