



## PITTSBURGH FACT SHEET

### Program Overview

**The Pittsburgh Business Group on Health (PBGH)**, one of the first employer groups selected to participate in the Diabetes Ten City Challenge in 2005, offers participation in the Diabetes Ten City Challenge through its LivingMyLife<sup>®</sup> (LML) Program. The **Giant Eagle Supermarket** chain in Pittsburgh joined the DTCC in the fall of 2006, and is initially offering participation in the program to 6,000 non-union Giant Eagle employees.

### Program Facts

- ❑ 24 PBGH member companies that participate in the PBGH Prescription Drug Program are eligible to offer the LML Program to employees, retirees and dependents
- ❑ Six PBGH member companies initially implemented the LML program, providing close to 1,500 people with diabetes the opportunity to voluntarily enroll in the program
- ❑ The LML program has been rolled out in phases, with the first group of eligible participants beginning coaching sessions with pharmacists in April 2006
- ❑ To date, more than 220 people with diabetes are enrolled in the DTCC through PBGH's LML program
- ❑ In January 2007, Giant Eagle began covering co-pays for participants from its corporate office and 146 company-owned supermarkets in Western Pennsylvania and Ohio

### Pharmacist Networks

- ❑ PBGH's pharmacy benefits manager, CVS/Caremark, is coordinating the pharmacist network for the LML program
- ❑ More than 80 pharmacists, specially trained in diabetes care, are providing personalized coaching to the participants in the program
- ❑ Participating network pharmacies include a number of independent community pharmacies and chains such as Giant Eagle, KMart and Rite Aid
- ❑ Pharmacists are certified in diabetes care with the proprietary American Pharmacists Association (APhA) Diabetes Certification Program.
- ❑ Duquesne University School of Pharmacy provides certificate training to pharmacists
- ❑ Giant Eagle pharmacists are meeting directly with fellow employees and their dependents as part of Giant Eagle's participation in the DTCC

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### Relevant Statistics

According to the **U.S. Centers for Disease Control** and the **American Diabetes Association**:

- ❑ 7.3 percent of Pennsylvania adults have been diagnosed with diabetes (2004), compared to 5.2 percent in 1994
- ❑ 23.6 million people – 7.8 percent of the U.S. population – have diabetes
- ❑ 17.9 million people have been diagnosed and 5.7 million have not
- ❑ 1.6 million new cases of diabetes were diagnosed in people aged 20 years or older in 2007
- ❑ Diabetes was the seventh leading cause of death listed on U.S. death certificates in 2006

According to a report from the **Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council** (PHC4), released in November 2005 (<http://www.phc4.org/reports/diabetes/04>):

- ❑ In 2004, diabetes was the principal diagnosis in 23,725 admissions, accounting for 132,000 hospital days and more than \$673 million in hospital charges.
- ❑ 15.4 percent of patients with diabetes were hospitalized two or more times.
- ❑ Multiple hospitalizations were more common among certain populations, including Medicaid and Medicare recipients.
- ❑ The number of hospitalizations for diabetes grew by 8.6 percent between 2000 and 2004.
- ❑ Approximately eight percent of Pennsylvania adults have been diagnosed with diabetes.
- ❑ In the past five years, there were more than 115,000 hospital admissions for diabetes, which resulted in a total of \$2.6 billion in hospital charges.

### Quotable Quote

#### **Christine Whipple, PBGH Executive Director:**

*"It has been proven that bringing together all members of the health care team - pharmacists partnering with physicians and other health care providers - to coach and monitor people with diabetes can dramatically improve their lives and impact overall costs. We are excited about the opportunity the Diabetes Ten City Challenge has brought to the PBGH LivingMyLife<sup>®</sup> Program. The employers are excited that this program supports their efforts and goals to engage the person with diabetes in managing their care and ultimately their health."*

### About the Pittsburgh Business Group on Health

Founded in 1981, the Pittsburgh Business Group on Health (PBGH) is an employer-led non-profit coalition of large, mid-size and small organizations representing over 60 member companies, more than 800,000 employees, dependents and retirees, and over \$4 billion in health care expenditures. The organization promotes education, collaboration and innovation among members, and in the community, to drive and deliver value and quality in health care and benefits.

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