



*South Coast Health Services
Consortium
Primary Care Partnership*

South Gippsland Division of General Practice and the South Coast Health Services Consortium

Diabetes Protocols Project



Project Overview

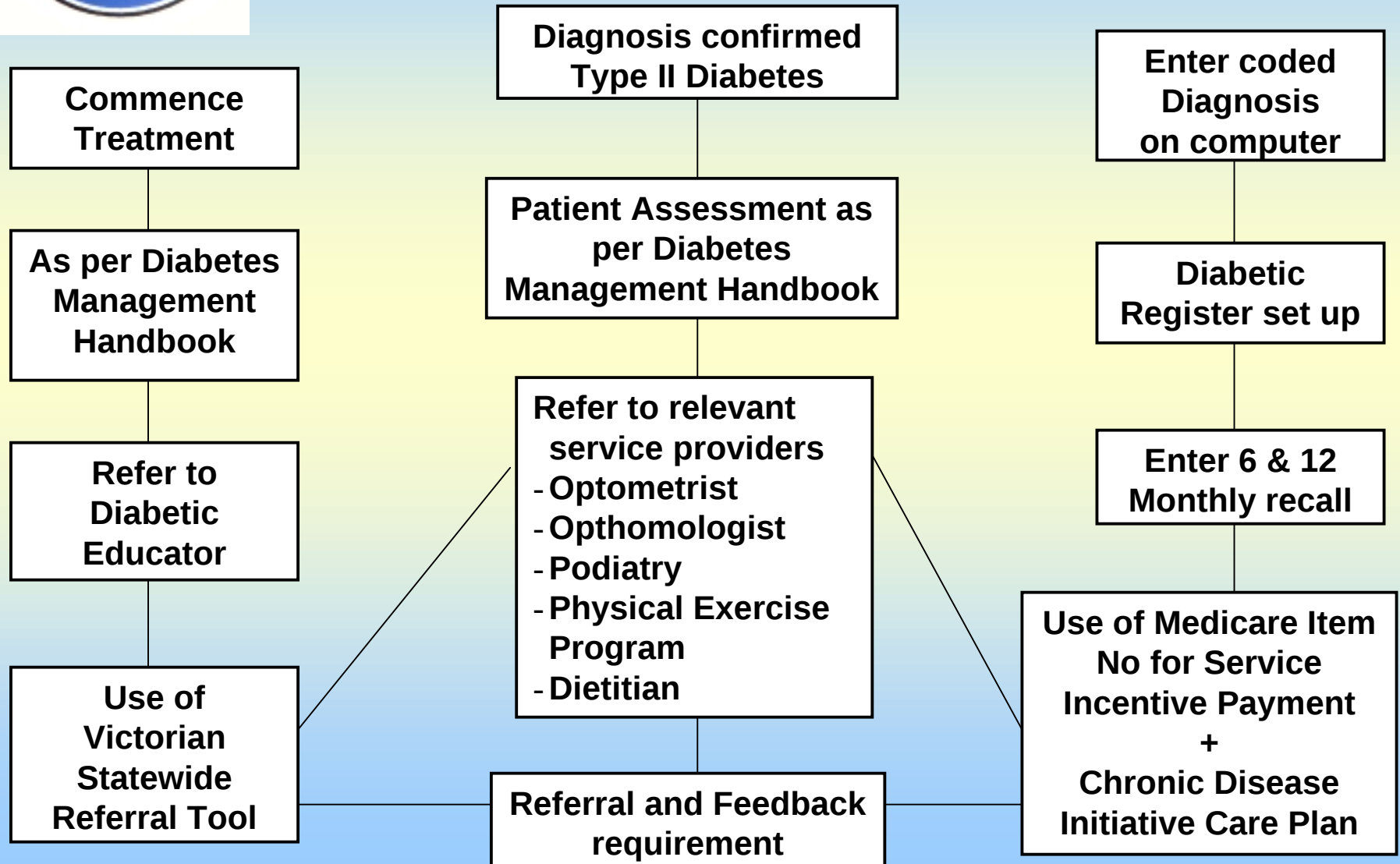


- Involved developing protocols for the uptake of Chronic Disease Initiative (CDI) for diabetes
- Input was gathered from a small group of GPs (12), Diabetes Nurse Educators (5) and Practice Nurses (16)
- Diabetes Protocols include recall systems, referrals using the SCoTT, Active Script and the use of Infoxchange Service Directory



Protocol Flow Chart

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Reach



- The group of 12 GPs involved in developing the protocols included a representative from each major practice
- All Diabetes Nurse Educators in South Gippsland and majority of Practice Nurses were involved in the formulation
- All GPs within the Division (75) were sent information about the protocols and the use of the SCoTT
- Training on the use of the SCoTT was delivered to all Practice Managers (6) and to 22 GPs



Effectiveness



- The protocols were seen to be very useful, comprehensive and reflective of best practice
- Difficulty was encountered in gaining feedback from GPs – busy time of year
- Project Coordinator also a Practice Nurse which increased clinical understanding of the process and realities of general practice



Adoption



- 8 out of 12 GPs involved in the development of the protocols are using them
- Depends on the practice systems – utilising Practice Nurses to support implementation
- A grant has been received to further the training which will endeavor to have 50% of Division using the protocols
- Two practices do not have the SCoTT electronically which is a barrier
- Adoption increased by local diabetes workshops for practice nurses to assist their involvement in the protocols



Implementation



- Use of the protocols required low level of support
- Required training on Medical Director
- Level of uptake of different parts of the protocols varied (active script and SCoTT)
- The evidence for the need to change to use the SCoTT was not strong enough
- A number of GPs very happy with their current referral tools
- Implementation of protocols enhanced by data on high admissions to hospital due to diabetes complications



Maintenance



- The participation of GPs in the project was realistic considering time frames and introducing something new
- Use of the SCoTT may increase if funded agencies require it to be used
- Now need to train more GPs across the Division on how to use the protocols
- Need to follow up with GPs who have been trained in the protocols to see if they are using them
- Will launch protocols at Diabetes Continuing Professional Development meeting next month