Diabetes is a group of diseases characterized by high blood glucose, or blood sugar, caused when the body either does not produce enough insulin or is unable to use insulin in an effective way. When not controlled, the high level of glucose can lead to serious health complications, including death. According to the American Diabetes Association (ADA), diabetes kills more Americans every year than AIDS and breast cancer combined. Complications can include heart and kidney disease, vision loss and limb amputation.

Diabetes imposes a substantial economic burden on society and is one of the costliest chronic diseases in the world. Medical technology has revolutionized the ways in which people are screened for and live with diabetes, providing diagnostic and treatment options that contribute to improved health outcomes, helping to maintain a better quality of life and reducing overall health system costs.

The Value of Medical Technology: Controlling & Treating Diabetes

Diabetes accounts for 40% of all new cases of kidney failure. Diabetes accounts for 44% of all new cases of kidney failure. Economic costs of diagnosed cases of diabetes in 2012 included $156B in direct medical costs and $25B in reduced productivity. Diabetes imposes a substantial economic burden on society and is one of the costliest chronic diseases in the world.

KIDNEY FAILURE

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STROKE & HEART DISEASE

Death from heart disease and stroke risk among adults with diabetes are two to four times greater than among adults without diabetes. Lower limb amputation is more than 60% of non-traumatic lower limb amputations in patients with diabetes. Diabetes imposes a substantial economic burden on society and is one of the costliest chronic diseases in the world.

LOWER-LIMB AMPUTATION

More than 60% of non-traumatic lower limb amputations are in patients with diabetes. Economic costs of diabetes increased 41% over just five years, from 2007 to 2012. Economic costs of diabetes increased 41% over just five years, from 2007 to 2012.

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