Medication Management

In November of 2021, Iowa Methodist Medical Center started a pharmacist-run Medication Management clinic funded by 340B savings. This clinic averages 250 patients monthly. The clinic is staffed by pharmacists who receive referrals from providers to adjust patients’ medications to help control diabetes and other targeted diseases. For diabetics, the pharmacist follows up with patients by phone every two weeks to review blood sugar readings and adjust medications. 340B dollars directly help patients who cannot afford their prescriptions by extending 340B pricing.

Success – In August 2022, a patient with uncontrollable diabetes was referred to the clinic. She was taking generic medications, which she could afford, but still had an A1c of 12.5% (goal is generally below 8%). The pharmacist worked with her insurance to find an affordable $0 copay medication and also revisited and appropriately increased the prescription dosage. By November, her A1c was being controlled at her goal of 7.5%. By meeting this goal, she was able to stop one of her prior medications, and she became eligible to schedule a needed surgery for which she was previously ineligible due to elevated blood sugars.

The patient texted her clinic pharmacist:

Good morning. I had a doctors appointment yesterday. My test results came in today. Did you see my A1C id 7.5? I am so happy I can cry. Thank you so much for helping me. I know that things ain’t perfect but they are so much better. All because of you and the program that connected me to you. Thanks again. You are appreciated!