



Assessing progress towards the global diabetes targets in WHO European region

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Scope and purpose

The epidemic of diabetes continues to increase in the WHO European region; according to International Diabetes Federation estimates, one third remains undiagnosed and up to half may not meet their treatment targets. Five global diabetes coverage targets were adopted at the seventy-fifth World Health Assembly (WHA), which were developed following the seventy-fourth WHA resolution 74.4 on reducing the burden of noncommunicable diseases through strengthening prevention and control of diabetes. The five new targets set the standard that, by 2030: 80% of people with diabetes are diagnosed; 80% of people with diagnosed diabetes have good control of glycaemia; 80% of people with diagnosed diabetes have good control of blood pressure; 60% of people with diabetes of 40 years or older receive statins; and, 100% of people with type 1 diabetes have access to affordable insulin and blood glucose self-monitoring.

The targets complement the wider noncommunicable disease agenda, supporting achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the global and European action plans for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases. Additionally, the targets specifically support the 2021 WHO Global Diabetes Compact initiative.

In November 2023, WHO Regional Office for Europe (WHO/Europe) and International Diabetes Federation Europe held a high-level technical summit to accelerate commitments on diabetes across the WHO European region. During the summit, WHO/Europe presented an update of progress towards the diabetes targets, which highlighted two key issues. Firstly, there are apparently significant data gaps for the Region, for some targets more than others. Secondly, the current picture of progress suggests significant gaps in outcomes, with few Member States achieving any target. Overall, there is currently not a clear picture of progress against the diabetes targets in the WHO European region, and possibly also at national level.

WHO/Europe have embarked on an initiative in 2024 to get a more robust assessment of performance against the global diabetes targets across the WHO European region. A more robust picture will ultimately help to identify gaps and support targeted action to improve outcomes for individuals with diabetes across the region, contributing to wider noncommunicable disease targets. The WHO/Europe initiative has firstly involved collaboration with technical experts to determine different approaches for how the targets can be measured across the region and within countries. Subsequently, WHO/Europe will work with several Member States to assess the targets within their country. Finally, WHO/Europe will create a summary brief to share learning across the region on how targets can be measured at the national level, and across the Region using varied case-studies from Member States.

As part of the initiative, WHO/Europe are holding a series of online meetings to bring together representatives from Member States, aiming to help build a picture of how the targets can be measured within countries. The first meeting took place on 13 May 2024 with the second scheduled for 9 July 2024, and a further one to two meetings to follow by end 2024. The objectives of these meetings include to familiarise Member States with the global targets, discuss different approaches for how the targets can be

measured through examples from different national contexts, and facilitate discussion on key considerations in assessing the targets in-country.

Interested Member States may wish to follow up within their country and/or with WHO/Europe to gather good practice on how to measure the targets. The meetings are for invited participants only.