

# DiaTrends<sup>®</sup>

## Version 2.0.32 Enhancements

December 2003



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DiaTrends is a work in progress, with continuous development of enhancements to improve its ease-of-use and versatility. A major new version (2.0.32) was released in December 2003. Many of its exciting new features were first suggested by our users.

### Highlights:

- Added a major new feature, the "Cardiovascular Events" module. This important addition to DiaTrends and the patient registry project allows various cardiovascular events to be tracked (in relation to "pre-index visit" vs. "post-index visit," with the index visit being the date when each patient was first managed using DiaTrends). The new "Cardiovascular Events: Incidence and List" report allows robust reporting of aggregate cardiovascular events; which can be filtered by demographics, primary and/or secondary prevention groups, specific events, specific medications, etc. Looking forward, we are setting the foundation for sophisticated statistical modeling to be done on this data in the future, with the potential to uncover interesting relationships between cardiovascular events and these (or other) variables.
- Added a "User-Defined Fields" screen, which allows you to set-up an unlimited number of numeric, dropdown and/or free-text fields that you define, to be tracked in your patient population. The associated "User-Defined Fields" report includes a drop-down list so you can run a "range and list" report or a "done/not done" report on any of your special fields. ("User-Defined Fields" data is not included in your blinded data submission if you are involved in a patient registry project).
- Added a "Patient Notes" screen, allowing you to enter dated free-form text notes (up to 100 characters each) and to select one or two of those notes (if desired) to be displayed on that patient's home page. ("Notes" data is also not included in blinded data submissions).
- Added a "Minimum Data Set Compliance" screen, which summarizes participating physician progress in entering each component of the "Minimum Data Set" for physicians participating in patient registry projects.
- Updated to the latest full-text clinical guidelines (2003 ADA Clinical Practice Recommendations and links to the 2002 AACE guidelines).
- Updated the medication database through December 10, 2003; bringing the medication dropdown lists up to date by adding the new meds, new doses, etc. that have been released since the latest version of DiaTrends was initially distributed (4/2002) and the latest medication update was distributed (1/2003).
- Added a medication database update utility which will allow you to more quickly and easily update the medication database files in the future.

- Enhanced the "Patient Search" screen to display each selected patient's activity status (active, inactive, dead), and allowing the patient list be filtered to display only patients in one or more of those categories.
- Revised the "HbA1c Report Card" consistent with current ADA guidelines. It is now based on values calibrated to plasma glucose, and a revised formula for estimated average glucose =  $(\text{HbA1c} \times 35) - 75$  (adapted from Rohlfing CL, Wiedmeyer HM, et. al: Defining the relationship between plasma glucose and HbA1c: analysis of glucose profiles and HbA1c in the Diabetes Control and Complications Trial. *Diabetes Care* 25:275-278, 2002).
- Added an automatic height re-entry checkbox to the "Weight, Height and BMI" screen. This allows you to specify that, for a particular patient, the most recent height is to be automatically re-entered any time a subsequent weight is entered and saved (i.e. height is re-entered for the same date as the more recent weight whenever a corresponding height has not been entered by the user). This applies whether the weight is entered from this screen, or from the "Quick Data Entry" panel. This allows automatic calculation of the BMI as each weight is saved, with the assumption that the patient's height is remaining stable. Of course, a new height can still be entered at any time.
- Enhanced data entry validation ranges, thus reducing the risk of inadvertent entry of incorrect numerical values or dates.
- Added "Pregnant" checkbox to the "Patient Information" screen, with associated screen labels and a "Pregnant" report. The intent is simply to be able to flag patients who are currently pregnant, and to be able to generate a list of those patients.
- Added 1/Cr graph (that's 1 divided by serum creatinine) to the "Renal" screen.
- Added more toolbar menu items.
- Enhanced the DiaTrends "Report Generator" so reports run faster, and with less demand on system memory.
- Added a medication filter to 30 "Report Generator" reports.
- Added a "Summary Results" section to the existing "Diabetes Type" report. This shows the number and percent of patients (meeting the other selection criteria) with each diabetes type, in addition to listing patients by diabetes type.
- Added "Medication (Group/Class): List" report. This powerful report provides the number, percent and list of all active patients (meeting the selection criteria you pick) who are on the medication group(s) (e.g. "Lipid-Lowering Meds") and/or class(es) (e.g. "HMG-CoA Reductase Inhibitors") you select.
- Added "Export Demographics to Excel" feature, allowing you to export 20 demographic fields (after applying the desired selection criteria and/or medication filter) to a Microsoft Excel file (or, if Excel is not installed, to a comma separated values file). The resulting file may then be used, for example, to create a mail merge.
- Enhanced the "Blind (De-Identified) Data Export Utility" to allow participants in patient registry projects to submit blinded data by any of 3 methods (blank diskettes, blank writable CD's, or uploading to secure website).
- Enhanced the DiaTrends database backup utility by adding a second step (after the initial backup to a directory on the local hard drive) allowing you to point to a drive (a:, d:, etc.) where you want to back up your DiaTrends data to external media.
- Replaced the existing diskette-based license deployment to one involving user-entry (via copy/paste or keyboard) of a serial number and license code. That way, license renewals can be done by email or fax, without having to wait for the license extension diskette to arrive in the mail.

- Improved overall performance and stability by rebuilding the DiaTrends database engine and programming architecture, utilizing the latest industry-standard versions of Sybase SQL Anywhere® and Microsoft Visual Basic®, taking full advantage of today's more robust operating systems.
- Updated installation process, using the current InstallShield® version.
- Updated on-line help and support files.
- Updated documentation (e.g. "Installation and Administration Guide").
- And many more...

As always, we would be delighted to hear of any ideas you might have to make DiaTrends even better!