Obesity Treatment: A Pathway to a Healthier Wisconsin

March 23, 2022
12 PM – 1:30 PM
A Live, Virtual Presentation

REGISTER

This education event is free to WCHQ provider members, annual partners and corporate sponsors. For information contact Mary Kay Fahey

Over the past year, the WCHQ Obesity Advisory Group has focused on defining the issues associated with identifying and treating patients who are obese to obtain the best outcome.

Obesity is a chronic disease and a driver of health care costs. This learning event features two members of the WCHQ Obesity Advisory Group who will explain what they have learned in their own practices about the relationship between obesity and diabetes.

AGENDA

12 NOON  Welcome and Introduction

12:05 PM  The State of the State’s Body Composition: Obesity and Diabetes in Wisconsin 2022

Samantha Pabich, MD
Assistant Professor, Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism
University of Wisconsin

12:35 PM  Treating Obesity to Reduce Cardiovascular Risks in Type 2 Diabetes

Melanie Smith, MD
Board Certified, Family Medicine; Diplomate, Obesity Medicine
Advocate Aurora

1:05 PM  WCHQ Measurement and Improvement Obesity- Related Activities

Jen Koberstein, WCHQ Program Manager, Obesity
Brian Slattery, WCHQ Director, Performance Measurement and Analysis

1:30 PM  Adjourn
About Our Speakers

**Samantha Pabich, MD, MPH** is an assistant professor in the Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism at University of Wisconsin. She recognizes that historically obesity has been treated as a "cosmetic" issue yet sees the tremendous impact it has on her patients' health and well-being. She is passionate about changing the perception of obesity treatment and advocating for prevention efforts within the medical field and the country overall.

Dr. Pabich practices general endocrinology and enjoys working with patients to manage diabetes (with meds and low-carb diets), osteoporosis, hyperthyroidism, pituitary disease, PCOS, gonadal dysfunction, adrenal dysfunction and gender dysphoria.

Dr. Pabich recommends evidence-based strategies to help patients achieve weight loss. A typical visit with her will include questions to determine if there are any medical or psychological causes contributing to weight gain or inability to lose weight, discussion of safety and efficacy of dietary strategies and pharmaceutical options and individualizing the plan of care for the patient.

She received her medical degree at the University of Illinois and completed her residency, fellowship and received a master’s degree in public health at the University of Wisconsin.

**Melanie Smith, MD** is board certified in Family Medicine and a diplomate in Obesity Medicine. She is also a member of American Academy of Family Physicians, Obesity Medicine Association, the Obesity Society and on the WCHQ advisory group for Obesity.

Dr. Smith earned her degree from Midwestern University in Downers Grove, IL in 1995 and completed her family medicine residency at University of Illinois Christ Hospital in Family Medicine.

She has been in family medicine at Burlington, WI since 1998 in multiple leadership roles. She is also the medical director of the HMR program since 2010. She passed her obesity medicine boards in 2019. She has transitioned to full-time obesity medicine 01/01/2022.

Dr. Smith is passionate about helping patients get to a healthy weight to control chronic diseases and brings her expertise to help lead Advocate Aurora’s system-wide initiative in building a comprehensive weight management strategy.