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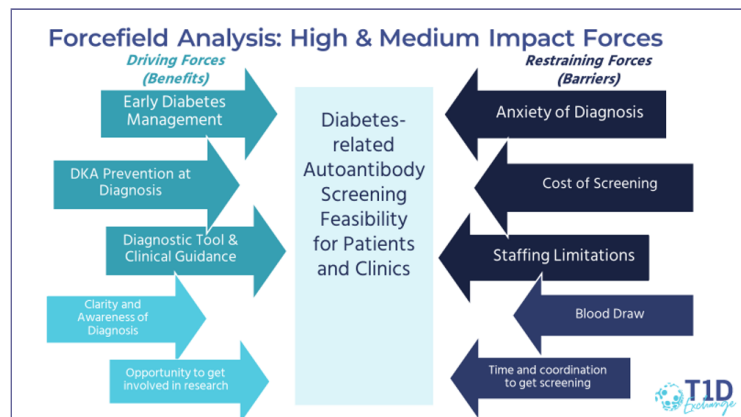
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Qualitative Study: Provider Awareness and Attitudes towards Type 1 Diabetes Antibody Screening

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Abstract:

Background: This study explores awareness and attitudes of endocrinology providers toward Type 1 Diabetes (T1D) autoantibody screening and identifies perceived benefits and barriers to screening. **Methods:** Three focus groups were conducted with thirteen eligible endocrinology providers recruited from the T1D Exchange Quality Improvement Collaborative. Focus groups were transcribed, coded, and analyzed using NVivo qualitative software. A force field analysis was conducted, analyzing high, medium, and low impact forces that were identified in the study. **Results:** All providers considered themselves “pro-screening” and comfortable discussing autoantibody screening with patients. High impact driving forces included early diabetes management, DKA prevention at diagnosis, and clinical guidance and diagnosing abilities. Medium and low impact forces included awareness and clarity of diagnosis, opportunity to get involved in research, and results for insurance approval. High impact restraining forces included anxiety of diagnosis for patients and family members, cost of screening, and staffing or clinic limitations. Medium and low impact forces included time and coordination for patients and families, mildly invasive procedure, and insurance coverage. **Conclusion:** Findings highlight perceived benefits and barriers to autoantibody screening, illustrating provider insight and awareness. .



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