

Dr. Jorge Carlos Alcocer Varela
Secretary of Health
Lieja No. 7
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Mexico

Brussels, 20 June 2023

The announced withdrawal of NOM-015-SSA2-2010, for the PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND CONTROL OF DIABETES MELLITUS.

Dear Secretary of Health,

I am the writing on behalf of the Board of the International Diabetes Federation (IDF), a non-profit organisation representing 240 national diabetes associations in 161 countries and territories. IDF serves the interests of the 540 million people estimated to be living with diabetes worldwide and the healthcare professionals who support their care.

We have recently received information concerning the withdrawal of NOM-015-SSA2-2010, for the prevention, treatment and control of diabetes mellitus.

On 2 June, the Undersecretary of Health, Dr. Hugo Lopez-Gatell Ramirez, reported that a series of NOMs, including NOM-015-SSA2-2010, would be withdrawn. Unfortunately, the rationale for this decision was not communicated and there has been a lack of clarity as to what will happen next in terms of diabetes care.

It is our understanding that the NOMs provide a regulatory framework which the health system is obliged to follow. The NOMs establish the standards that processes and services must meet when they may constitute a risk to the safety of individuals or may be detrimental to human health. The NOM for diabetes, while it may not be perfect, establishes a reference for the standard of care and follow-up to which all people living with diabetes should have access.

For the significant number of people (an estimated 12 million) living with diabetes in Mexico, the cancellation of this NOM is worrisome.

People living with diabetes require ongoing access to appropriate standards of care. These include the medications and education they need to help them manage their condition and delay or avoid the debilitating and potentially life-threatening complications associated with diabetes. The decision to withdraw NOM-015-SSA2-2010 implies that public and private health institutions will not be held accountable for the provision of an agreed standard of diabetes care. Furthermore, the lack of clarity around what will happen next is, quite understandably, leaving many Mexican citizens with diabetes feeling more insecure, unprotected and vulnerable.

IDF would kindly request that you provide the explanation for this withdrawal and assure people living with diabetes in Mexico that they will not experience a disruption in the services they need and that current standards of care will, as a minimum, be maintained.

We sincerely hope that you can provide IDF with positive news so that we can allay the fears of Mexican citizens living with diabetes and assure our community that standards of care will be upheld.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Akhtar Hussain', with a horizontal line striking through the middle of the name.

Akhtar Hussain, MD, M.Phil, MPH, Ph.D, D.Sc
Presidente de la Federación Internacional de Diabetes