

## **Soundbite Script – Diabetes and COVID-19**

**Tanya Munger, Nurse Practitioner, OSF HealthCare Endocrinology**

“Patients with Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes are at greater risk for severe complications with any viral illness, especially COVID-19. Those complications and risks are much greater if they have co-morbidity conditions such as heart disease, chronic kidney disease, and things of that nature, and if their diabetes is not well managed. Some of the complications we’re seeing with people who are hospitalized with COVID include diabetic ketoacidosis; sometimes they’re having severe hypoglycemia; some are going into acute renal failure, blood clots and even strokes.”

**Tanya Munger, Nurse Practitioner, OSF HealthCare Endocrinology**

“Some of the people who tend to have more complications from COVID are the people who have chronic health conditions like diabetes, heart disease, past history of stroke, people who are older in age, and people whose chronic health conditions aren’t well managed. Obesity is another big predictor of morbidity and mortality of COVID as well.”

**Tanya Munger, Nurse Practitioner, OSF HealthCare Endocrinology**

“People have less risk of complications if their diabetes is well managed, and if their blood glucose is in a healthy target range. But for the folks whose diabetes is not well managed and they have other co-morbid conditions or they are already experiencing other complications from their diabetes, those patients are more at risk for serious complications, even death.”

**Tanya Munger, Nurse Practitioner, OSF HealthCare Endocrinology**

“For our patients who have a diagnosis of type 1 or type 2 diabetes it is really important for them to continue handwashing, wearing their mask, social distancing. We want them monitoring their blood sugars the way their health care professional has recommended, making sure they’re using their medications the way they’re supposed to, and we still want them to follow up with their provider for their routine office visits. For our patients with diabetes we highly recommend they get vaccinated.”