

## **MEDIA ALERT**

**14 November 2011**

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# **Diabetes experts map pathway to prevention**

**Health experts develop Diabetes Australia's National Diabetes Policy Priorities for 2012 – 2015 with a particular focus on prevention.**

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Diabetes experts are at national parliament this morning to agree on key policy priorities to stem the diabetes epidemic and stop the health system going broke in next 20 years.

The National Diabetes Policy Forum held today in Canberra (World Diabetes Day) will address diabetes prevention issues at a societal level, at the level of prevention for those at high risk of diabetes, screening for early detection as well as focussing on integrated, consumer-centred services preventing complications across the primary care system, in diabetes centres and in acute care.

The forum will lead to a communiqué to governments and stakeholders addressing national prevention priorities.

“We continue to see more than 275 new cases of diabetes develop every day in Australia and we must take more serious and sustained action to help prevent this. By developing policies that can help prevent diabetes we can assist governments to focus on initiatives that address the oncoming expensive health crisis,” Diabetes Australia Chief Executive Officer Lewis Kaplan said today.

### **Available for interview at the morning diabetes prevention session:**

- Michael Moore, CEO ~ Public Health Association of Australia
- Louise Sylvan, CEO ~ Australian National Preventive Health Agency
- Jane Martin, Senior Policy Adviser ~ Obesity Policy Coalition
- Prof Stephen Colagiuri, Boden Institute at Sydney University
- Prof James Dunbar, Rural Health at Flinders University and Deakin University
- Lewis Kaplan, Diabetes Australia CEO
- Prof Greg Johnson, Chair, Australian Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance
- Guy Barnett, former senator and author

Diabetes Australia is the peak body for diabetes including state and territory consumer bodies and health professional and research bodies dedicated to diabetes.

**For interview call Lyn Curtis 0411 019 924**