



# DESG Teaching Letters

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Dear Colleague,

The Diabetes Education Study Group of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes is delighted to present you with this new series of *Teaching Letters*, which aim to help improve the efficiency and the quality of care of patients with diabetes mellitus.

The first series of *Teaching Letters* was translated into 26 different languages. After a widespread initial success, almost all these versions are now out of print. Rather than simply republish the first series, we decided to benefit from our experience and incorporate some of the many suggestions you have made.

This new series of *Teaching Letters* has been critically re-edited by a group of diabetes specialists from 25 different European countries, who have substantial experience in the field of patient care. The educational sciences have given us new insights into techniques for patient education, and new practical approaches which will be presented to you in the future. The same is true for the psychological sciences, from which much can be learned about improving compliance, adherence to treatment, and empowerment of patients.

We would like to express our gratitude to the Groupe de Recherches Servier, Paris and in particular to Dr Jacques Servier, Chairman, Dr J.-P. Seta, and Dr D. Halimi for financial support for the activities of the DESG through an educational grant. Their contribution to the continuing education of the diabetes team is gratefully acknowledged.

We hope that the active use of these teaching letters, and the discussions they should start off in your team, will help you to reassess your approach to the complex problems posed by the care and follow-up of patients with diabetes.

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