



MEMORANDUM

Diabetes Care paper documents increased mortality with CMS' competitive bidding program - March 21, 2016

Diabetes Care has [published](#) a compelling investigation of CMS' competitive bidding program, concluding that reduced access to diabetes testing supplies resulted in an increase in mortality in competitive bidding test sites. The results raise big-time red flags for what is already a heavily scrutinized program and differ significantly from [CMS' April 2012 report](#) on adverse outcomes associated with competitive bidding, which suggested that there was "no disruption of access to supplies" (this was hugely surprising and disappointing from our major government payor) and no negative healthcare consequences associated with the program. Read the paper [here](#) and our previous coverage [here](#).