



spotlight on health

Uninsured Or Self-Insured: Diabetic Care At Your Fingertips

(NAPSA)—Technology can help some patients in a surprising way.

For thousands of Americans living without health insurance, one simple illness can place a heavy financial burden on the family. Living with a chronic illness, such as diabetes, can be both financially draining and stressful. For these patients, finding the lowest possible cost for care isn't just important—it's vital.

Whether self-employed and choosing not to pay high premiums or not yet covered by a new company, there are thousands of Americans with diabetes who do not have medical insurance. Even people with good jobs and "average" lifestyles are living without insurance. The federal government estimates that nearly 44 million Americans lack coverage of any kind for an entire year. Other research shows that tens of millions more Americans go without health coverage for shorter periods of time. Whatever the reason for not having insurance, most people with diabetes are looking for the best possible price on their supplies.

Thanks to the Internet, discount medical supply stores are available at the click of a mouse. People living with diabetes, however, still need to be sure their on-line store is safe, credible and established. Fortunately, there are companies such as Diabetic Express, at www.diabeticexpress.com, which was founded by a pharmacist and has been providing diabetic supplies and prescrip-



Many uninsured and self-insured people with diabetes are purchasing their medical supplies through the Internet.

tions at the most competitive prices since 1997. The company understands the needs of people with diabetes and can help them through convenience, peace of mind and caring support through knowledgeable customer service reps who are available on-line and at a toll-free telephone number, 1-800-338-4656, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

According to the American Diabetes Association, diabetes affects more than 18 million people. More than two-thirds know they have it and are getting treatment. Whether you are insured or uninsured, if you have any signs of diabetes—frequent urination, excessive thirst, extreme hunger, unusual weight loss, increased fatigue, irritability and blurry vision—don't hesitate to see your doctor immediately. Don't be one of the five million people who continue to be untreated.