



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## College of Medicine expert to international forum: diabetes economic modeling data questionable

**PEORIA** – (June 26, 2014) More than \$245 billion was spent on diagnosed cases of diabetes in the U.S. alone in 2012, but data used by the health care industry to determine future costs for treating adult onset diabetes is incomplete, misleading and does little in the way of providing useful predictive information, according to a recent report compiled by the Center for Outcomes Research at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria.

The report reviewed and analyzed 15 separately published studies on the cost-effectiveness of new diabetes oral treatments between 2004 and 2013. It questioned their validity citing negligible differences among patient data, yet promulgated vast disparities in long-term outcomes. The findings also assumed additional health improvements based on weight loss, despite limited supporting evidence, and most showed a general lack of transparency.

“It’s clear that a number of changes are required in the evaluation of diabetes therapies,” says Carl Asche, PhD, a health economist, Research Professor and Director of the Center for Outcomes Research at UICOMP, who co-authored the report with Stephen Hippler, MD, Senior Vice President of Clinical Excellence for OSF HealthCare.

Dr. Asche was among just 30 experts worldwide invited to present their findings last week at Stanford University as part of what is called the 2014 Mount Hood Challenge. The event brings experts from around the world every couple of years to hear about the latest updates on economic models focused on the management of diabetes.

### **Diabetes by the Numbers:**

**592 million:** Number of people predicted to be living with diabetes worldwide in 2035, according to the International Diabetes Foundation. Last year, there were about 382 million.

**\$245 billion:** Total dollars spent on diagnosed diabetes in the U.S. alone in 2012, according to the 2014 National Diabetes Statistics Report.

**29.1 million:** The number of Americans with diabetes in 2012.

**1.7 million:** Approximate number of new diagnoses/year in 2012.

**The University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria** educates more than 150 medical students annually and more than 170 residents and fellows in 18 graduate medical programs. UICOMP is home to the Center for Outcomes Research and a collaborator in the Jump Trading Simulation & Education Center.