

UNE Team Presents on Findings of Three-Phase Barrier Study on Access to Diabetes Management and Prevention in Maine at National Convening of Public Health Professionals

UNE evaluators from the Center for Excellence in Public Health (CEPH) presented a poster on a three-phase study of barriers to diabetes management and prevention at the American Public Health Association's Annual Meeting & Expo in Boston held November 6 – 9.

The CEPH Chronic Disease Evaluation Team and Maine CDC staff presented a poster describing results from a series of studies conducted from 2019-2022 to identify barriers to diabetes prevention and management in Maine. In keeping with the conference theme, *APHA 2022 — 150 Years of Creating the Healthiest Nation: Leading the Path Toward Equity*, the study focused on examining social determinants of health to inform equitable solutions.

Across all three phases of the study, the most common barriers were cost, transportation, and awareness as reported by diabetes management and prevention program providers, select primary care sites, and adults in Maine. The poster highlighted efforts that have been implemented or planned by the Maine CDC to address these overarching barriers in order to create more equitable access to diabetes services.

Presenting from UNE were Pamela Bruno, MPH, Ruth Dufresne, MA (not pictured), Ashley Duffee, MA, Jessica Eller, and UNE graduate student Salva Firdaus, MHA, MPH Candidate, along with Maine CDC staff Louise Ingraham, MS, RDN, LD.

For more information contact: Pamela Bruno, MPH, Senior Research Associate, CEPH, 207.215.9452, pbruno2@une.edu

