Course Places Available
Places are still available on the Insulin course, Primary Care Course and Diabetes Foot Assessment Training Course. Flyers have been sent out to all surgeries in the last week. Applications for all courses are now also available on the web-site: www.diabetes-resources.org.uk

World Diabetes Day
14th November is World Diabetes Day. The theme for this year is 'Diabetes Care for Everyone'. The campaign aims to raise awareness of communities and groups in both developed and developing countries that experience difficulties in accessing optimal healthcare because they are outside the healthcare system, or for some reason are less likely to access or are less aware of the services available to them.

If you would like us to run an awareness stand in your surgery or centre on or around World Diabetes Day, please contact Pergul, Charlene or Anna-Marie on 020 8510 7182 / 5005 / 5920. More information about the day if available at www.idf.org

As part of World Diabetes Day, we have are having an extra walking group, starting at 12.00 GMT as part of the international Global Diabetes Walk, and have joined the World Record Attempt. See the next newsletter for further details

Healthy Walking Groups
We are piloting our first Hackney wide walking group for people with diabetes, or at risk of diabetes. The group will run on:
- Tuesday Mornings
- Start 10.30am prompt
- Venue – Hackney Town Hall, Behind bus stops

Look for the people with “Diabetes UK” t-shirts on.
This is a pilot walk for 10 weeks, last walk on 21st November 2006. Please ask people to wear sensible footwear and bring water with them.

New Class of Drug treatment for Diabetes and Obesity - Rimonabant / Acomplia
A new class of drug, a Cannabinoid CB1 Receptor Antagonist, which can reduce weight, improve lipid profile and improve glycaemic control has been launched in the UK. Rimonabant (Brand name Acomplia) is indicated for use “as an adjunct to diet and exercise for treatment of Obese patients (BMI >30), or overweight patients (BMI >27) with associated risk factors, such as type 2 diabetes or dyslipidaemia”. For more information, contact Roland Zaunmayr, Sanofi-Aventis Representative, on 07740 935147

HOT OFF THE PRESS
Competact is a new mixed medication for type 2 diabetes – 15mg Pioglitazone mixed with 850mg Metformin. Available from November 2006

Retinal Screening
The service is now up and running. Appointments are being sent out for 2-3 weeks following receipt of referral. If you have not received a result 8 weeks after the appointment, please contact us. Abnormal results are screened as a priority, so if a result is taking some time, it is more than likely a normal image.

Group Education for Afro-Caribbean people
The “Coping with Diabetes” project has a new member of staff, Charlene Brade, who started with us on 4th September. She is hoping to set up group education at GP surgeries specifically for people from Afro-Caribbean backgrounds. If you would like a group in your surgery, please contact Charlene or Pergul on 020 8510 7182.