



Diabetes Scholarship Awards \$100,000 For Minority Medical Education

(NAPSA)—To recognize excellence in academic achievement among minority medical students, Novo Nordisk, a world leader in diabetes care, has established the Novo Nordisk Diabetes Scholarship fund, which will provide annual grants to each of the four historically-black medical schools. The announcement was made at the 2003 annual meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC).

The \$100,000 scholarship fund was established to support diversity within the medical profession and to encourage leadership in improving overall healthcare and diabetes care among minority populations and in underserved communities.

The following medical schools each received a \$25,000 scholarship grant: Howard University College of Medicine, Washington, D.C.; Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tenn.; Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, Ga.; and the Charles R. Drew University of Science and Medicine, Los Angeles, Calif. Each medical school then selects five students, each to receive \$5,000 scholarships for the 2003-2004 academic year according to selection criteria established by the individual schools.

Diabetes Among African Americans

Diabetes is among the most serious health threats to the African-American community. According to the American Diabetes Association, approximately 2.8 million or 13 percent of all African Americans have diabetes, and up to one-third may be undiagnosed. African Americans are two times as likely to have diabetes as non-Hispanic whites of similar age, and often have



Campbell Howard, M.D., of Novo Nordisk Pharmaceuticals (fifth from left) with representatives of the four historically black medical schools and AAMC at the annual meeting where the \$100,000 scholarship fund was announced.

higher rates of at least four of the most serious complications: heart disease, blindness, amputation and end-stage renal disease (kidney failure). Some 25 percent of African Americans between the ages of 65 and 74 have diabetes, and one in four African-American women over age 55 has diabetes.

“These young people face one of the most serious health challenges in our history,” said Martin Soeters, President, Novo Nordisk Pharmaceuticals, Inc. “Diabetes has reached pandemic proportions throughout the world, with devastating effect in particular among minority populations. If we can enlighten these young students so that they understand the impact they can have as medical professionals, many patients may benefit down the road.”

For more information, visit www.novonordisk-us.com.

With a broad diabetes portfolio and some of the most advanced products within the area of insulin delivery systems, Novo Nordisk is a world leader in diabetes care.