Diabetes is currently one of the 10 leading causes of death in Louisiana. In 2015, 575,000 people in Louisiana were estimated to have diabetes, and the disease was estimated to affect the health of 15.3 percent of the adult population.\(^1\) Not only does diabetes cause detriment to the well-being of Louisiana’s citizens, but it also puts a tremendous financial burden on the state.

In 2014, 108,000 non-traumatic lower limb amputations were performed in the US due to diabetes.\(^3\) The average cost of each amputation is $70,434.\(^4\) Research shows yearly visits to a podiatrist by those with diabetes can decrease the risk of lower limb amputation by up to 80 percent.\(^5\) Louisiana projects a total of 880,000 people living with diabetes at a cost of $8.4 billion by 2025.\(^6\) For more information, visit www.apma.org/diabetes.

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