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Diabetes is the third leading cause of death by disease in this country, but current research is promising. On HEALTHLINE, here's Dr. Ernest Mazzaferri of the University of Nevada School of Medicine:

"Diabetes is a very important disease affecting approximately six million Americans, which represents just under two and a half percent of the population. In spite of enormous increases in our knowledge of this disease, it continues to account for a substantial amount of blindness in the country, heart disease and kidney disease. But it's all not bad news. We are beginning to understand a great deal about diabetes and have recognized important new ways to deliver insulin, important new ways to monitor treatment at home, and important new ways which we think will affect the long-term complications. Indeed, there seems to be reason for hope that we are changing the course of diabetes through these current treatments."

This is HEALTHLINE from the University of Nevada School of Medicine.