

PRESS RELEASE

Media Contact: Bob Liff, George Arzt Communications, Inc.
C: 917-287-7089; e-mail: bob@gacnyc.com

Zoom link for Tues Dec. 22 Press Conference at
at 11 am Below

**WITH STUDIES SHOWING DIABETICS SUFFER A FIFTH HIGHER RATE OF SEVERE COVID-19 SYMPTOMS AND
COVID DEATH RATES SKYROCKET WITH POOR GLUCOSE CONTROL
Health Groups Call for Immediate State and City A**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DECEMBER 22, 2020

As the COVID pandemic continues to rage through New York and the nation, a great deal of attention has justifiably been paid to the high correlation between those who contract the disease, and the severity and COVID patients now clearly show that those with more severe symptoms and far higher mortality rates specifically as their blood sugar levels increase. Policy makers know that, but fail to act on the knowledge that minimal investments in helping people drive down blood glucose levels has a direct benefit to their health in a short period of time. city and state health agencies, along with Medicaid, continue to leave people with diabetes vulnerable to more episodes of avoidable mass mortality in a COVID "second wave."

A report released today by the Bronx-based Health People/Community Preventive Health Institute shows that minimal investments in encouraging vulnerable residents to take common sense, cost-effective steps to lower their blood sugar levels can drive down the severity and mortality of COVID

A New York early-

Community Health Empowerment. "We cannot stand by while medical systems and public health establishments allow Black and Brown communities to unnecessarily suffer like this."

"I'm completely taken aback that during a viral epidemic that has devastated patients with diabetes, I'm