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6 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
7 FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

8
9 James Payne,

No. CV 09-01195-PHX-NVW

10 Plaintiff,

ORDER

11 vs.

12 State of Arizona, et al.,

13 Defendants.

14 Before the Court is Defendant State of Arizona's Motion for Summary Judgment
15 (Doc. 187). For the following reasons, the motion for summary judgment will be granted
16 in part and denied in part.

17 **I. LEGAL STANDARD**

18 Summary judgment should be granted if the evidence shows there is no genuine
19 dispute about any material fact and the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of
20 law. Fed. R. Civ. P. 56(a). The moving party has the burden of showing that material
21 facts are not genuinely disputed. *See Celotex Corp. v. Catrett*, 477 U.S. 317, 323 (1986).
22 To meet this burden, the moving party must point out the lack of evidence supporting the
23 nonmoving party's claim, but need not produce evidence negating that claim. *Id.* at 325.
24 When the moving party has carried its burden under Rule 56(c), the nonmoving party
25 must show that there are genuine issues of material fact. *Anderson v. Liberty Lobby, Inc.*,
26 477 U.S. 242, 250 (1986). A material fact is one that might affect the outcome of the suit
27 under the governing law. *Id.* at 248. A factual issue is genuine "if the evidence is such
28 that a reasonable jury could return a verdict for the nonmoving party." *Id.* The

1 nonmoving party must produce evidence to support its claim or defense by more than
2 simply showing “there is some metaphysical doubt as to the material facts.” *Matsushita*
3 *Elec. Indus. Co. v. Zenith Radio Corp.*, 475 U.S. 574, 586 (1986). The Court must view
4 this evidence in the light most favorable to the nonmoving party, must not assess its
5 credibility, and must draw all justifiable inferences from it in favor of the nonmoving
6 party. *Anderson*, 477 U.S. at 255. Where the record, taken as a whole, could not lead a
7 rational trier of fact to find for the nonmoving party, there is no genuine issue of material
8 fact for trial. *Matsushita*, 475 U.S. at 586.

9 On summary judgment, the nonmoving party’s evidence is presumed true, and all
10 inferences from the evidence are drawn in the light most favorable to the nonmoving
11 party. *Eisenberg v. Ins. Co. of North America*, 815 F.2d 1285, 1289 (9th Cir. 1987);
12 *Baldwin v. Trailer Inns, Inc.*, 266 F.3d 1104, 1117 (9th Cir. 2001). But the evidence
13 presented by the parties must be admissible or able to be produced in admissible form.
14 See Fed. R. Civ. P. 56(c)(2). Conclusory and speculative testimony in affidavits and
15 moving papers is insufficient to raise genuine issues of fact and to defeat summary
16 judgment. *Thornhill Publ’g Co., Inc. v. GTE Corp.*, 594 F.2d 730, 738 (9th Cir. 1979).

17 **II. FACTS PRESUMED TRUE FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT**

18 Plaintiff claims that he was denied access to medical treatment for his diabetes
19 during his incarceration by the Arizona Department of Corrections. The following facts
20 and plausible inferences therefrom are taken in the light most favorable to Plaintiff, the
21 non-moving party. See *Smith v. Jackson*, 84 F.3d 1213, 1217 (9th Cir. 1996).

22 In 1983, Plaintiff was diagnosed with Type I diabetes, a chronic disease that
23 qualifies as a disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. As a diabetic,
24 Plaintiff requires a consistent insulin dosage and food regimen to maintain a healthy
25 blood-sugar level. This includes a particular dosage of insulin and the opportunity to eat
26 a special diet. Short-term failure to maintain a healthy blood-sugar level causes Plaintiff
27 to experience severe hypoglycemic and hyperglycemic episodes, during which he lapses
28 into states of incoherence or even unconsciousness. Long-term failure to maintain a

1 healthy blood-sugar level can cause severe and permanent physical deterioration and
2 disability. Prior to his incarceration, Plaintiff's diabetes was under control, he had no
3 evidence of any neuropathic or other diabetic complications, and he was generally able to
4 live a normal life.

5 Plaintiff was incarcerated in the Arizona State Prison Complex in Florence,
6 Arizona in May 2002, where he remained until September 2002. In September 2003, he
7 received a second sentence based on the incident that resulted in his first sentence, and
8 was again incarcerated in the Florence prison facility, where he remained until his release
9 in September 2007. Upon his incarceration, Plaintiff was medically screened and
10 prescribed a variety of treatments and accommodations for his diabetes. Defendant's
11 policies acknowledge that diabetes is a chronic condition that requires regular treatment.
12 While Plaintiff often received his prescribed treatments, including twice-daily blood
13 sugar checks, insulin treatments, and diabetic meals, Plaintiff was on many occasions
14 denied access to his prescribed treatments. Plaintiff was prescribed a diabetic diet and
15 was issued a diabetic meal card in order to allow him to obtain special diabetic meals, but
16 he was denied access to his meal card from July 2004 to June 2005, approximately eleven
17 months. Defendant's delay in providing Plaintiff access to his medically prescribed meal
18 card is unexplained, even though Plaintiff repeatedly requested a replacement diabetic
19 meal card.

20 As a result of not having his meal card, Plaintiff was often denied access to
21 diabetic meals and other snacks, including instances where officers confiscated diabetic
22 snacks Plaintiff had received before he could eat them. Defendant's requests for
23 prescribed glucose tablets were often unmet due to lack of supply and when he did
24 receive them, the dosage was usually insufficient. As a result of these denials of access
25 to prescribed treatment, Plaintiff's blood sugar level was often outside medically
26 acceptable ranges, as reflected in Defendant's medical records for Plaintiff. He often
27 suffered severe hypoglycemic and hyperglycemic episodes, during which he experienced
28 incoherence or sometimes even unconsciousness. He was denied a pass to receive care in

1 the medical unit to receive treatment on at least ten occasions, and he was found
2 unconscious on at least five occasions.

3 Plaintiff was also denied access to other aspects of medical care. Prior to his
4 incarceration, Plaintiff utilized an insulin pump to manage his diabetes. Plaintiff's ex-
5 wife attempted to deliver his insulin pump to the prison, but prison officials did not allow
6 Plaintiff to use the insulin pump. Defendant did not prescribe an insulin pump as part of
7 Plaintiff's treatment, and Plaintiff never utilized an insulin pump while incarcerated.
8 Plaintiff was prescribed twice-daily blood sugar checks, but was often only permitted to
9 check his blood sugar once a day or not at all. Plaintiff was also prescribed daily insulin
10 treatments, but was at times denied access to these treatments. The extent and frequency
11 to which Plaintiff was denied treatment is unclear due to gaps and inaccuracies in prison
12 medical records. However, Defendant's medical records for Plaintiff acknowledge that
13 Plaintiff's diabetes was on occasion not controlled. Plaintiff complained about the denial
14 of access to medical treatment on several occasions and filed multiple grievances.

15 During his incarceration, Plaintiff developed serious diabetic health problems,
16 including hypoglycemic episodes, hypoglycemic unawareness, episodes of
17 unconsciousness, and neuropathy. Plaintiff currently suffers from numerous diabetic
18 health problems, including seizures, chronic nausea, gastroparesis, hypertension, elevated
19 body temperature, difficulty communicating, sexual dysfunction, diabetic retinopathy,
20 dysphasia, constant weakness, and possible stroke. Plaintiff's inability to maintain his
21 blood-sugar levels during his incarceration contributed to the development of these
22 conditions.

23 **III. ANALYSIS**

24 Plaintiff's sole claim for relief is based on the allegation that Defendant failed to
25 reasonably accommodate his disability while incarcerated by the Arizona Department of
26 Corrections over two separate terms: in 2002 and from 2004 to 2007. Defendant has
27 moved for summary judgment on four issues: (1) whether Plaintiff has sufficient
28 evidence to establish a prima facie case that his rights under the ADA were violated; (2)

1 whether any claims related to Plaintiff's first period of incarceration are time-barred; and
2 (3) whether Plaintiff is permitted to seek punitive damages; and (4) whether Plaintiff
3 disclosed sufficient evidence to support his claims for economic damages.

4 **A. Violation of Rights under the ADA**

5 Plaintiff's claim arises under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act
6 (hereinafter "ADA"), which provides that "no qualified individual with a disability shall,
7 by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of
8 the services, programs, or activities of a public entity, or be subject to discrimination by
9 such entity." 42 U.S.C. § 12132 (2007). To establish violation of Title II of ADA, a
10 plaintiff must show that:

11 (1) he is an individual with a disability; (2) he is otherwise
12 qualified to participate in or receive the benefit of some
13 public entity's services, programs, or activities; (3) he was
14 either excluded from participation in or denied the benefits of
15 the public entity's services, programs, or activities, or was
16 otherwise discriminated against by the public entity; and (4)
such exclusion, denial of benefits, or discrimination was by
reason of [his] disability.

17 *See Simmons v. Navajo Cnty., Ariz.*, 609 F.3d 1011, 1021-22 (9th Cir. 2010) (citing
18 *McGary v. City of Portland*, 386 F.3d 1259, 1265 (9th Cir. 2004)). The ADA authorizes
19 suits by private citizens for money damages against public entities, *Unites States v.*
20 *Georgia*, 546 U.S. 151, 153 (2006), and Title II of the ADA "unmistakably includes state
21 prisons" as covered public entities. *Pennsylvania Dept. of Corrs. v. Yeskey*, 524 U.S.
22 206, 210 (1998). Further, medical care is "one of the 'services, programs, or activities'
23 covered by the ADA." *Kiman v. N.H. Dept. of Corrs.*, 451 F.3d 274, 284 (1st Cir. 2006).
24 The "alleged deliberate refusal of prison officials to accommodate [a prisoner's]
25 disability-related needs in such fundamentals as . . . medical care . . . constitutes
26 exclusion from participation in or . . . denial of the benefits of the prison's services,
27 programs, or activities." *Georgia*, 546 U.S. at 157.

1 While evidence of discriminatory medical care can constitute a claim under the
2 ADA, claims based solely on provision of inadequate or negligent medical care are not
3 cognizable under the ADA. *See Simmons*, 609 F.3d at 1021-22 (“The ADA prohibits
4 discrimination because of disability, not inadequate treatment for disability.”); *see also*
5 *Bryant v. Madigan*, 84 F.3d 246, 249 (7th Cir. 1997) (“The ADA does not create a
6 remedy for medical malpractice.”); *Marlor v. Madison Cty., Idaho*, 50 F. App’x 872, 873
7 (9th Cir. 2002) (“Inadequate medical care does not provide a basis for an ADA claim
8 unless medical services are withheld *by reason of* a disability.”). However, a Plaintiff
9 may have a valid claim under the ADA where he can show that Defendant “discriminated
10 against [him] because of his [disability], not by providing him with inadequate care, but
11 by denying him immediate access to prescribed medications[.]” *McNally v. Prison*
12 *Health Servs.*, 46 F. Supp. 2d. 49, 58-59 (D. Me. 1999).

13 Further, “[t]o recover monetary damages under Title II of the ADA . . . a plaintiff
14 must prove intentional discrimination on the part of the defendant.” *Duvall v. County of*
15 *Kitsap*, 260 F.3d 1124, 1138 (9th Cir. 2001). To establish intentional discrimination
16 under the ADA, the plaintiff must show the defendant acted with “deliberate
17 indifference.” *Id.* “Deliberate indifference requires both knowledge that a harm to a
18 federally protected right is substantially likely, and a failure to act upon that likelihood.”
19 *Id.* at 1139. In the ADA context, a Plaintiff must both “identify ‘specific reasonable’ and
20 ‘necessary’ accommodations that the State failed to provide” and show that Defendant’s
21 failure to act was “a result of conduct that is more than negligent, and involves an
22 element of deliberateness.” *Id.* at 1140.

23 Defendant argues that Plaintiff cannot make out a claim under the ADA for
24 several reasons: first, Plaintiff cannot prove he is a qualified individual with a disability
25 under the ADA; second, Plaintiff cannot prove he was excluded from participation in
26 programs or denied services by reason of his disability; and third, Plaintiff has not
27 produced admissible evidence showing Defendant was deliberately indifferent to
28 Plaintiff’s medical needs. In the alternative, Defendant argues Plaintiff’s claims related

1 to his 2002 incarceration in the Arizona Department of Corrections are time-barred under
2 the applicable two-year statute of limitations.

3 **1. Status as Qualified Disabled Individual**

4 Title II of the ADA¹ defines a disability as

5 (A) a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits
6 one or more of the major life activities of such individual;

7 (B) a record of such an impairment; or

8 (c) being regarded as having such an impairment.

9 42 U.S.C. § 2102(1) (2007). Defendant does not dispute that diabetes is a “physical
10 impairment under the ADA because it is a physical condition affecting the digestive,
11 hemic and endocrine systems[,]” nor that “major life activities include caring for oneself,
12 performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and
13 working.” *Fraser v. Goodale*, 342 F.3d 1032, 1038 (9th Cir. 2003); *see also Rohr v. Salt*
14 *River Project Agric. Imp. & Power Dist.*, 555 F.3d 850, 858 (9th Cir. 2009) (“[E]ating is
15 a ‘major life activity.’”) (quoting *Fraser*, 342 F.3d at 1038). Rather, Defendant claims
16 that Plaintiff has failed to establish that his diabetes substantially impaired any of his
17 major life activities.

18 Whether Plaintiff’s diabetes substantially limits any major life activity is an
19 “individualized inquiry.” *Fraser*, 342 F.3d at 1039. Defendant relies on general
20 propositions that a diagnosis of Type I diabetes in itself is insufficient to constitute a
21 disability under the ADA and that mitigating measures must be considered when
22 determining whether an impairment substantially limits a major life activity. However,
23 Defendant has not tied these assertions to any facts specific to Plaintiff and has failed to
24 account for the limitations imposed by Plaintiff’s required care itself. *Id.* (noting “the

25 ¹ The ADA Amendments Act, which came into effective on January 1, 2009, does not
26 retroactively apply to Plaintiff’s claims, which cover actions taken from 2002 to 2007.
27 *See Becerril v. Pima Cnty. Assessor’s Office*, 587 F.3d 1162, 1164 (9th Cir. 2009). The
28 Court will accordingly conduct its analysis using the former version of the ADA.

1 side effects of [any] mitigating measure” should not be overlooked as mitigating
2 measures “can also be impairing”); *see also Rohr*, 555 F.3d at 859 (finding genuine issue
3 of material fact as to whether Type II diabetic’s condition and care regimen qualified him
4 as a disabled individual and stating “[i]t is simply no answer to say that ‘if [Plaintiff]
5 strictly controls his diet’ he is not substantially limited; for [Plaintiff], the effort required
6 to control his diet is itself substantially limiting”). Further, Defendant’s suggestion that
7 “before both of Plaintiff’s incarcerations” his diabetes “when properly controlled, did not
8 prohibit him from participating in any major life activities” (Doc. 187 at 8) does not
9 establish that his condition during his second incarceration, the relevant time period for
10 Plaintiff’s claim, was not sufficiently limiting.²

11 Plaintiff has done more than simply assert that his diagnosis qualifies him as a
12 disabled individual under the ADA. Rather, Plaintiff states that his “diabetes regimen
13 was perpetual, restrictive and demanding.” (Doc. 209 at 15.) To manage his condition,
14 Plaintiff needed to test his blood sugar levels throughout the day and carefully control his
15 diet, both in terms of the type and frequency of his meals. A “brittle diabetic’s burden of
16 a perpetual treatment regime demanding a careful balance of blood sugar, food intake,
17 and activity levels” can be enough to qualify as a substantial limitation on the major life
18 activity of eating. *Rohr*, 555 F.3d at 859. Plaintiff’s severely fluctuating blood sugar
19 levels during his incarceration, coupled with his multiple hypoglycemic and
20 hyperglycemic episodes, also suggest that any corrective measures or treatment failed to
21 reduce Plaintiff’s condition to one that was not substantially limiting. (*See, e.g.*, Doc.
22 209 at 14-15.) At the summary judgment stage, “comparative or medical evidence” is not
23 required to establish a genuine issue of material fact regarding whether an individual’s

24 ² While Defendant’s motion for summary judgment does not limit this argument to a
25 particular period of incarceration, Defendant’s reply in support of its motion for summary
26 judgment indicates that this argument applies primarily to Plaintiff’s status during his
27 first incarceration. As the Court agrees that Plaintiff’s claims related to his first
28 incarceration are time-barred, it is unnecessary to decide the extent to which Plaintiff’s
diabetes substantially limited his major life activities prior to his second incarceration.

1 impairment substantially limits a major life activity. *Head v. Glacier Nw. Inc.*, 413 F.3d
2 1053, 1058 (9th Cir. 2005). Rather, “a plaintiff’s testimony may suffice to establish a
3 genuine issue of material fact” regarding the extent of a limitation on a major life activity.
4 *Id.* Plaintiff’s testimony, coupled with Defendant’s own diagnosis and treatment of
5 Plaintiff’s diabetes showing he was regarded as having an impairment, are sufficient to
6 establish, at a minimum, a disputed issue of material fact as to whether Plaintiff’s Type I
7 diabetes substantially limited one or more of his major life activities—such as eating or
8 caring for himself—during his incarceration. Defendant’s motion for summary judgment
9 on this issue will therefore be denied.

10 **2. Denial of Medical Services by Reason of Disability**

11 Plaintiff claims Defendant has violated his rights under the ADA because it
12 “repeatedly and deliberately denied [Plaintiff] access to prescribed, medically necessary
13 foods and medicines[.]” (Doc. 212 at 12.) Defendant argues that Plaintiff cannot
14 maintain his ADA claim because he only alleges inadequate or negligent medical
15 treatment, not discriminatory denial of care. Defendant claims there is no genuine issue
16 of material fact regarding whether the denial of treatment was deliberate and intentional
17 or simply negligent, as Defendant claims. The issue before the Court is thus whether
18 there is a disputed issue of material fact with respect to whether Plaintiff’s claims more
19 properly allege a denial of access to medical treatment or simply inadequate or negligent
20 medical care.

21 The fact that Defendant provided Plaintiff some medical care does not
22 dispositively preclude Plaintiff from sustaining a claim under Title II of the ADA. *See*
23 *Kiman*, 451 F.3d at 284-90 (reversing grant of summary judgment to defendant where
24 plaintiff sometimes received prescribed medications but was on other occasions denied
25 access to medical services). Rather, whether and when the ADA supports claims by
26 prisoners regarding a prison’s medical and nutritional services is a close question that
27 turns on distinguishing actionable claims of “denial of medical treatment” from non-
28 actionable claims of mere inadequate or negligent medical treatment. *See id.* at 284

1 (noting courts have “differentiated ADA claims based on negligent medical care from
2 those based on discriminatory medical care”). Many courts have held that inadequate
3 treatment for an individual’s medical conditions does not provide a basis for a liability
4 under the ADA. *See, e.g., Bryant*, 84 F.3d at 249 (“The ADA does not create a remedy
5 for medical malpractice.”); *Burger v. Bloomberg*, 418 F.3d 882, 882 (8th Cir.2005)
6 (medical treatment decisions not a basis for ADA claims); *Fitzgerald v. Corr. Corp. of*
7 *Am.*, 403 F.3d 1134, 1144 (10th Cir. 2005) (medical decisions not ordinarily within scope
8 of ADA); *Tannenbaum v. Arizona*, 2008 WL 2789589 at *11 (D. Ariz. 2008) (finding no
9 claim under the ADA where plaintiff never alleged that he did not receive treatment
10 because of his disability, but only claimed that “Defendants refused to provide [plaintiff]
11 with his desired treatment and thereby denied him adequate medical care”). However,
12 other courts have held that there can be a claim under the ADA when an individual was
13 deliberately denied of access to medical treatment. *See, e.g., Georgia*, 546 U.S. at 157
14 (citing *Yeskey*, 524 U.S. at 210) (noting “the alleged deliberate refusal of prison officials
15 to accommodate . . . disability-related needs in such fundamentals as . . . medical care”
16 could constitute exclusion from or denial of the benefits of the prison’s “services,
17 programs, or activities” for purposes of Title II of the ADA); *Kiman*, 451 F.3d 274;
18 *Hughes v. Colo. Dep’t of Corrs.*, 594 F.Supp.2d 1226 (D. Colo. 2009); *Tandel v. Cnty. of*
19 *Sacramento*, 2012 WL 602981 at *22-24 (E.D. Cal. 2012). Courts have accordingly
20 attempted to draw the line “between claims asserted under the ADA that allege that the
21 medical treatment that a plaintiff received or had access to was inadequate, versus claims
22 alleging that a plaintiff was discriminatorily precluded from access to medical treatment
23 altogether.” *Hughes*, 594 F. Supp. 2d at 1241.

24 This first category of non-cognizable claims most fairly encompasses “claims that
25 actually resemble medical malpractice claims because the prisoner challenges the *course*
26 *of treatment* that was selected.” *Id.* (citing *Fitzgerald*, 403 F.3d at 1137) (emphasis
27 added); *see also Mahoney v. Hammond*, 2010 WL 2720759 (E.D. Wash. 2010) (rejecting
28 ADA claim where Plaintiff challenged denial of preferred prescription for particular

1 chronic pain medication). The latter category of cognizable claims can be said to
2 encompass claims that a prisoner was actually denied treatment that had been prescribed
3 to him without any legitimate, non-discriminatory reason. *See, e.g., McNally*, 46 F. Supp
4 2d. at 58-59 (finding the plaintiff stated an ADA claim by alleging the jail “discriminated
5 against [him] because of his [disability], not by providing him with inadequate care, but
6 by denying him immediate access to prescribed medications, a service provided to
7 detainees in need of prescriptions for other illnesses”); *see also Kiman*, 451 F.3d at 284-
8 90. Courts have generally found no claim under the ADA where an individual’s
9 allegations amount to little more than a difference of opinion regarding the proper scope
10 of treatment or where an individual complains that he was not prescribed a particular
11 course of preferred treatment – not in circumstances where the evidence shows a
12 defendant’s unexplained failure to properly provide access to already prescribed medical
13 treatment. *See, e.g., O’Guinn v. Lovelock Corr. Ctr.*, 2010 WL 4395442 at *4 (D. Nev.
14 2010) (collecting cases and noting the “inapplicability of the ADA . . . to medical
15 decisions”); *Mahoney*, 2010 WL 2720759 at *2 (noting allegation of discrimination was
16 insufficient to state an ADA claim because Plaintiff did “not allege he was denied
17 prescribed medications” and only asserted “a difference in medical judgment between
18 himself and medical professionals at state correctional facilities whether narcotic pain
19 medication should be prescribed.”).

20 Accordingly, the Court can draw a line between situations where an individual is
21 simply unsatisfied with the medical decisions made regarding his treatment, which do not
22 support an ADA claim, and situations where a plaintiff is denied access to prescribed
23 medication, which can support an ADA claim. *See Kiman*, 451 F.3d at 284-90
24 (upholding grant of summary judgment against plaintiff on claims that defendant failed to
25 properly diagnose plaintiff’s condition, prescribed inadequately low medical dosages, and
26 denied request for cane and “early chow” pass, but finding disputed issues of fact
27 regarding claims that plaintiff was denied routine access to prescription medicines,
28 prescribed shower chair, prescribed front cuffing, and request to be placed in an

1 accessible cell). Plaintiff here is challenging more than just the type and scope of his
2 treatment and the medical decisions made about his care, such as whether he should
3 receive a certain type of medication, or the frequency with which his blood sugar should
4 be checked beyond his prescribed twice-daily checks; he is also challenging Defendant’s
5 deliberate failure to provide him access to the care and treatment that was prescribed to
6 treat his disability. Plaintiff’s claims do not relate to “purely medical decisions[,]”
7 *Fitzgerald*, 403 F.3d at 1144, and Defendant does not contend that the failure to provide
8 access to treatment was done on the basis of a negligent *medical* judgment. Rather,
9 Plaintiff’s evidence here more closely resembles the facts of *Kiman* and *Hughes*, which
10 found cognizable ADA claims.

11 As discussed above, *Kiman* held that plaintiff’s challenge to the prison’s diagnosis
12 and treatment of his amyotrophic lateral sclerosis was not cognizable under Title II of the
13 ADA, but found his challenge to corrections officers’ denial of access to his prescription
14 medications and other prescribed accommodations were cognizable. 451 F.3d at 284-87.
15 The First Circuit reversed the district court’s grant of summary judgment for defendants
16 with respect to some of plaintiff’s claims, noting that, for example,

17 Kiman . . . presented evidence that he informed the
18 defendants of the serious nature of his disability and they had
19 acknowledged, by issuing the bottom bunk pass and cane
20 pass, that Kiman had mobility problems that required certain
21 accommodations. Yet, according to Kiman’s deposition,
22 corrections officers nonetheless failed to respond to his
23 request for a lower tier or his complaint that he was being
kept on a top bunk. This presents an issue of fact regarding
whether the corrections officers failed to provide him with
these reasonable accommodations.

24 *Id.* at 289-90.

25 Here, there are similarly genuine issues of material fact which preclude the Court
26 from granting Defendant’s motion for summary judgment. Plaintiff has established that
27 Defendant was on notice of the serious nature of his disability—as in *Kiman*, Defendant
28 acknowledged Plaintiff’s condition by prescribing him medications and issuing him a

1 diabetic meal card—but that Plaintiff was nonetheless deliberately denied access to
2 medical care in multiple areas. Specifically, Plaintiff claims he was denied access to the
3 following: (1) meal card and diabetic diet; (2) glucose tablets to keep on his person; (3)
4 pass to receive care in the medical unit; (4) twice-daily blood sugar checks; (5) insulin
5 pump; (6) insulin treatments. Plaintiff also claims that “unreliable prison medical records
6 obscure the denial of care[,]” suggesting that there may have been even more frequent
7 instances of denial of care. (Doc. 212 at 6.)

8 The inquiry thus turns to whether Plaintiff has marshaled sufficient facts to create
9 at least a fair inference that Defendant discriminatorily denied him access to treatment.
10 To establish intentional discrimination under the ADA, Plaintiff must show Defendant
11 acted with deliberate indifference. *See Duvall*, 260 F.3d at 1138. In determining whether
12 a prison acted with deliberate indifference toward a prisoner’s medical needs or disability
13 accommodations, courts often consider whether an affirmative request for
14 accommodation was made and denied and whether the prison was aware of the
15 seriousness of plaintiff’s condition. *See, e.g., Simmons*, 609 F.3d at 1022 (finding no
16 discrimination where “there is no evidence that [plaintiff’s requested accommodation]
17 was ever sought or denied”); *Olson v. Meyers*, 2004 WL 1280353 at *2 (N.D. Ill. 2004)
18 (finding no deliberate indifference where there was “no evidence to support a conclusion
19 that [defendant] was aware of the seriousness of plaintiff’s condition”).

20 For certain claims of denial of access to care, Plaintiff has not presented sufficient
21 facts to create a genuine issue of material fact regarding whether denial of access to
22 treatment was a result of deliberate indifference or simply negligence. The record shows
23 Defendant had legitimate, non-discriminatory reasons for denying Plaintiff access to
24 certain aspects of his medical care. *See Simmons*, 609 F.3d at 1021-22 (noting that denial
25 of access to jail program was “not because of [plaintiff’s] depression,” but was due to a
26 legitimate jail policy). For example, with respect to the purported denial of access to
27 prescribed glucose tablets, the only facts presented indicate that Plaintiff sometimes did
28 not receive his glucose tablets because of Defendant’s negligence in maintaining a

1 sufficient supply of glucose tablets. Deliberate indifference to Plaintiff's access to this
2 aspect of his treatment cannot fairly be inferred from these facts. Additionally, there are
3 insufficient facts to create a genuine dispute regarding Plaintiff's denial of access to an
4 insulin pump. Plaintiff has does not claim that Defendant prescribed the use of the pump
5 and then denied Plaintiff access to it. Further, there are insufficient facts to show
6 Defendant ever denied a specific request by Plaintiff for the insulin pump; the record
7 shows only that Plaintiff's ex-wife attempted to deliver the pump to the prison for
8 Plaintiff's use. This is not enough to raise a genuine issue of material fact as to whether
9 the denial was by reason of Defendant's deliberate indifference.

10 It is a close question whether Plaintiff's denial of access to care with respect to his
11 remaining claims was a result of deliberate indifference or simply due to negligence or
12 bureaucratic mistakes and inefficiencies. However, Plaintiff has proffered sufficient facts
13 to "create a plausible inference of discriminatory denial of access to medical care,"
14 *Hughes*, 594 F. Supp. 2d at 1242, with respect to at least some aspects of his prescribed
15 medical care. First, Plaintiff has shown that he was prescribed a diabetic meal card but
16 was denied access to that card for eleven months. Plaintiff made repeated requests for a
17 replacement meal card, which were ignored without any explanation. Defendant was on
18 notice of the serious need for Plaintiff to maintain regular blood sugar levels, as
19 evidenced by issuing Plaintiff a diabetic meal plan and general standards of care for Type
20 I diabetics. *See Kiman*, 451 F.3d at 288 (noting "defendants acknowledged, through the
21 issuance of a shower chair pass, [plaintiff's] serious disability-related needs"). Plaintiff
22 was further denied access to his diabetic meal plan with respect to his diabetic snacks;
23 prison officers are trained to know that inmates prescribed a diabetic snack need the
24 snack to control their blood sugar levels, but Plaintiff was nonetheless deliberately
25 deprived of his diabetic snacks on some occasions. There are insufficient facts in the
26 record before the Court to determinatively negate the inference that the eleven-month
27 delay in issuing the prescribed meal card or otherwise denying Plaintiff access to a
28 diabetic meal plan was a result of deliberate indifference to Plaintiff's medical care. *See*

1 *id.* at 286-90. Similarly, the failure to grant Plaintiff access to the medical unit in light of
2 Defendant's knowledge that Plaintiff suffered hypoglycemic attacks and had on at least
3 five occasions been found unconscious as a result of his condition raises sufficient issues
4 of material fact that a grant of summary judgment on these questions are precluded. *See*
5 *Duvall*, 260 F.3d at 1140-41 (noting plaintiff "presented sufficient evidence to show
6 deliberate indifference, and thus intentional discrimination" where there was a triable
7 issue of fact whether defendant "had notice of [plaintiff's] need for . . . accommodation . .
8 . and . . . failed despite repeated requests to take the necessary action.").

9 Of final note, to the extent Plaintiff's claims regarding the frequency of his blood
10 sugar checks and insulin treatments are merely a disagreement about the adequacy of the
11 treatment measures, these claims are not cognizable. For instance, no ADA claim will lie
12 for Defendant's decision to order twice-daily blood sugar checks on the grounds that this
13 frequency of checks is "not as often as the American Diabetes Association recommends."
14 (Doc. 212 at 5.) However, Plaintiff states that Defendant only permitted Plaintiff to
15 check his blood sugar once per day, and sometimes not at all, and that he was routinely
16 and deliberately denied access to his prescribed insulin treatments. While it is true that
17 Plaintiff often did receive his prescribed medications, the denial of routine access to care
18 still supports a claim under the ADA on these facts because it can fairly be inferred that
19 Defendant was deliberately indifferent to Plaintiff's access to prescribed medical care.
20 Considering Plaintiff repeatedly complained about the routine denial of access to his
21 medical care to no avail, and that Defendant was otherwise on notice that Plaintiff's
22 blood sugar levels were frequently at unsafe levels, and that Plaintiff had repeated
23 hypoglycemic and hyperglycemic episodes, the facts on record are sufficient to establish
24 Defendant's knowledge of Plaintiff's need for accommodation with twice-daily blood
25 sugar checks and insulin treatments. The denial of access to these treatments is
26 unexplained by the facts presented, but a reasonable jury could dispute whether this lack
27 of access was due simply to negligence or administrative inefficiencies or whether it was
28 a deliberate denial of access to care. *See Kiman*, 451 F.3d at 287 (finding genuine issue

1 of material fact regarding denial of routine access to prescribed medications where
2 plaintiff had “presented evidence supporting his assertions that he was not receiving his
3 medication on a regular basis, that he informed prison officials, and that they did not act
4 despite his repeated requests”). At a minimum, a discriminatory intent can plausibly be
5 inferred from the deliberate denial of access to treatment for his condition in these
6 respects.

7 In light of the foregoing, the issues that remain in this case for trial are limited; the
8 trial will not encompass a broad attack on the best practices for the treatment of diabetes
9 in prisons or whether Defendant adhered to its own policies and procedures. Plaintiff
10 will not be permitted to challenge the scope of his prescribed treatment or argue that the
11 treatment prescribed was inadequate. Rather, Plaintiff will be limited to proving that
12 Defendant was deliberately indifferent in denying Plaintiff access to the treatment
13 Defendant prescribed for him as delineated above.

14 **B. Statute of Limitations**

15 Defendant claims that Plaintiff’s claims related to his first incarceration are time-
16 barred. Because the ADA does not provide a governing statute of limitations, the Court
17 must apply the statute of limitations of the most analogous state law. *See, e.g., Pickern v.*
18 *Holiday Quality Foods*, 293 F.3d 1133, 1137 n.2 (9th Cir. 2002). This Court previously
19 applied A.R.S. § 41-1492.08(C), the two-year statute of limitations governing the
20 Arizonans with Disabilities Act, to Plaintiff’s claims (Doc. 78 at 16).³ Applying this two-
21 year statute of limitations period, the Court agrees that Plaintiff’s claims related to his
22 first incarceration are time-barred because the alleged discriminatory actions from
23 Plaintiff’s first incarceration ceased as to him upon his release.

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26 ³ Defendant also argues that Arizona’s two-year statute of limitations for personal injury
27 actions, A.R.S. § 12-542, applies to bar Plaintiff’s claims related to his first incarceration.
28 Because the Court finds Plaintiff’s claims are barred under the statute proffered by
Plaintiff, the Court need not decide this issue.

1 Plaintiff filed his original complaint in this matter on June 3, 2009 (Doc. 1). His
2 first period of incarceration ran from May 2002 to September 2002. As this Court
3 previously stated, “a jail inmate experiences discriminatory medical treatment practices
4 only for as long as he is in jail custody. The discrimination ceases as to an individual
5 plaintiff when that plaintiff is released from custody.” (Doc. 78 at 17.) Any
6 discriminatory treatment Plaintiff may have experienced during his first period of
7 incarceration ended upon his release from prison in September 2002; accordingly, any
8 complaint related to that period of incarceration needed to have been brought within two
9 years after Plaintiff’s release. Because Plaintiff did not file the currently pending action
10 until 2009, his claims related to his first incarceration are time-barred. The Court will
11 therefore grant summary judgment to Defendant on Plaintiff’s claims related to his first
12 incarceration.

13 The Court nonetheless recognizes that facts related to Plaintiff’s first period of
14 incarceration may have evidentiary value with respect to his ultimate claim for relief; for
15 example, Defendant may rely on evidence of the extent of Plaintiff’s injury during and
16 after his first period of incarceration to attempt to limit Plaintiff’s recovery. However,
17 the Court need not now address the admissibility of evidence from Plaintiff’s first period
18 of incarceration to support such arguments. The effect of the grant of summary judgment
19 in this respect is simply to rule that evidence of events from Plaintiff’s first incarceration
20 is not admissible to support a claim for relief for damages arising from Plaintiff’s first
21 period of incarceration.

22 A further issue related to the statute of limitations remains: to what extent Plaintiff
23 will be able to recover damages stemming from any denial of care that occurred before
24 June 3, 2007. Defendant’s motion for summary judgment argues only that the two-year
25 statute of limitations bars claims related to Plaintiff’s first incarceration. It does not raise
26 a statute of limitations argument related to any of Plaintiff’s claims related to his second
27 incarceration. (Doc. 187 at 11-12.) For the first time in its reply brief, Defendant raises
28 the argument that because the denial of access to Plaintiff’s meal card constitutes a

1 discrete act, Plaintiff had reason to know of the injury at the time it occurred and that the
2 claim is therefore time-barred. (Doc. 218 at 8.) While this issue is not properly before
3 the Court at summary judgment, *see United States v. Wright*, 215 F.3d 1020, 1030 n. 3
4 (9th Cir. 2000) (declining to consider an argument raised for the first time in reply brief),
5 it will be a matter to consider when instructing the jury on damages. It is undisputed that
6 Plaintiff knew about the gravity and consequences of his denial of access to medical
7 treatment as it was happening; accordingly, an instruction may be warranted that Plaintiff
8 is only entitled to damages for harm from the injury caused by denial of access to care
9 occurring between June 3, 2007 and his release, and any future harm directly stemming
10 from the denial of care occurring after June 3, 2007 only. *See Hughes*, 594 F. Supp. 2d at
11 1236 (applying statute of limitations and noting that plaintiff “reasonably should have
12 known of any deficiencies” in his medical treatment “at the time that he allegedly
13 required such services and did not receive them”).

14 **C. Punitive and Economic Damages**

15 Defendant has also moved for summary judgment on Plaintiff’s claim for punitive
16 and economic damages. Plaintiff has not disputed Defendant’s contention that punitive
17 damages are not permitted under the ADA. *See Lovell v. Chandler*, 303 F.3d 1039, 1048
18 n.3 (9th Cir. 2002); Because Plaintiff’s only remaining claim is brought pursuant to the
19 ADA, punitive damages are clearly unavailable here. *See Barnes v. Gorman*, 536 U.S.
20 181, 189 (2002) (“[P]unitive damages may not be awarded in private suits . . . brought
21 under . . . the ADA[.]”). Accordingly, Defendant is entitled to summary judgment on the
22 availability of punitive damages.

23 With respect to Plaintiff’s claim for economic damages, Defendant claims Plaintiff
24 did not sufficiently disclose proof of his lost wages, medical expenses, and impaired
25 future earning capacity under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26. Defendant also challenges Plaintiff’s
26 failure to account for deductions of state and federal taxes in his economic damages
27 calculations.

1 Under Rule 26(a)(1)(A)(iii), a party is required to provide

2 a computation of each category of damages claimed by the
3 disclosing party—who must also make available for
4 inspection and copying as under Rule 34 the documents or
5 other evidentiary material, unless privileged or protected from
6 disclosure, on which each computation is based, including
7 materials bearing on the nature and extent of injuries
8 suffered[.]

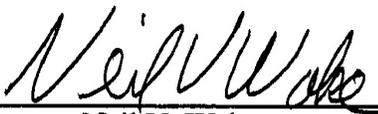
9 Plaintiff’s disclosure regarding his computation of damages provides an “estimate” that
10 “[Plaintiff] has suffered no less than \$5,800,000.00 in damages as compensation for lost
11 wages . . . pain and suffering, and future medical costs and expenses.” (Doc. 187 at 14.)
12 Plaintiff also noted that the estimated lost wage calculation is based on Plaintiff’s prior
13 employment at an annual salary of \$84,500.00, assuming Plaintiff continued work until
14 age 65. (*Id.*) Defendant claims Plaintiff did not produce pay stubs, tax returns, medical
15 bills, or any other evidence to establish the amount of his lost wages or impaired future
16 earning capacity. In response, Plaintiff disputes Defendant’s characterization of his
17 disclosure and points to information that was disclosed, including proposed physician
18 testimony as well as Plaintiff’s deposition on his employment history and impairment of
19 future earning capacity. Plaintiff also claims Defendant has failed to establish any harm
20 resulting from Plaintiff’s failure to disclose this information.

21 Where a party’s disclosure under Fed. R. Civ. P. 26 is insufficient, that party is
22 prevented from using the information it failed to disclose in support of a motion or at trial
23 “unless the failure was substantially justified or is harmless.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(c)(1).
24 Plaintiff has not alleged that any insufficiency in his production is substantially justified.
25 His argument that Defendant’s failure to request any supplemental disclosure indicates
26 that any deficiency in the disclosure is harmless is unavailing since initial disclosures
27 under Rule 26 are mandatory and do not necessitate a discovery request from the
28 opposing party, and because the disclosure of a “computation of damages under Rule
26(a)(1) is necessary for the opposing party to produce responding evidence, such as an

1 expert opinion.” *In re Gorilla Cos., LLC*, 454 B.R. 115, 119-20 (D. Ariz. 2011).
2 Nonetheless, because there is a dispute of fact regarding the sufficiency of the disclosure,
3 Plaintiff’s purported failure to provide more concrete documentation to support his
4 economic damages claim is not best resolved at the summary judgment stage. *See*
5 *Villagomes v. Lab. Corp. of America*, 783 F. Supp. 2d 1121, 1129 (D. Nev. 2011)
6 (Plaintiff’s failure to provide computation of damages was “not sufficient to support
7 summary judgment, though it may be sufficient for a motion in limine to exclude
8 particular evidence.”). Defendant’s motion for summary judgment on the availability of
9 economic damages will thus be denied without prejudice to a renewed motion at trial
10 challenging the sufficiency of the evidence proving economic damages. *See id.*

11 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Defendant State of Arizona’s Motion for
12 Summary Judgment (Doc. 187) is granted to the extent that Plaintiff’s claims related to
13 his first incarceration are time-barred, no punitive damages are permitted, and with
14 respect to Plaintiff’s claims of denial of access to his insulin pump and glucose tablets,
15 and denied as to the remaining issues.

16 Dated this 5th day of April, 2012.

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20 Neil V. Wake
21 United States District Judge
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