

From Pharmacy Lead, SPPG
Dr Brenda Bradley



By email

Trust Chief Executives *for onward cascade to:*
Heads of Pharmacy
Medical Directors
Directors of Nursing

All GP Practices
Diabetes Network

Strategic Planning and Performance Group

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13th May 2022

Dear Colleague,

FLASH AND CONTINUOUS GLUCOSE MONITORING DEVICES

FreeStyle Libre[®] is a flash glucose monitoring (FGM) system which monitors blood glucose levels using interstitial fluid levels rather than capillary blood glucose from finger prick testing. Freestyle Libre[®] sensors have been available to prescribe on HS21 prescription since November 2017.

At that time, there was no official NICE guidance on the use of Flash monitoring devices for glucose monitoring. Therefore in December 2017 a [pathway](#) was agreed with clinicians and Diabetes UK NI, for the Managed Access of FreeStyle Libre[®] in N.Ireland. Only patients with Type 1 diabetes were eligible to be prescribed Freestyle Libre[®] sensors. Recommendations for GPs to prescribe are required to come from Trust clinicians.

Revision of pathway

The purpose of this letter is to advise Trust diabetes teams and Primary Care teams that SPPG is working closely with the Diabetes Network to revise the current Freestyle Libre[®] pathway, to take account of the following recent changes:

(1) NICE Guidance

In March 2022, NICE updated their guidelines in relation to recommendations for glucose monitoring for:

- Adults with Type 1 diabetes
- Children and young people with Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes
- Adults with Type 2 diabetes

(2) Additions to the NI Drug Tariff

In April 2022, the first Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) device; GlucoRx AiDEX[®] has been added to the N.Ireland Drug Tariff. It is anticipated that other CGM devices will also become available on the Drug Tariff in the coming months.

Implementation of revised pathway

The revised pathway will mean that more patients will be able to benefit from these technologies, as defined by NICE. The implementation of the revised pathway will, therefore, be subject to the approval of funding.

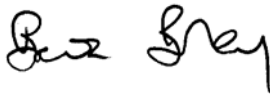
Action

I would like to remind Trust and Primary Care colleagues that until the pathway has been revised and funding in place, the current pathway should be followed.

Further correspondence will be issued in the coming weeks, with additional information, as soon as it is available.

If GP practices have any queries in relation to this correspondence, they should contact their local SPPG Pharmacy Adviser for advice.

Yours sincerely,



**Dr Brenda Bradley
Pharmacy Lead
Strategic Planning and Performance Group**

CC. All Community Pharmacists
GP Federation Leads
Diabetes UK NI

Contact details for Local Integrated Care Offices:

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