

## INTERIM GUIDANCE

### Flash Glucose Scanning System: November 2020 update (FreeStyle® Libre 2)

Flash Glucose Scanning systems monitor blood glucose levels using interstitial fluid levels rather than capillary blood glucose from finger prick testing. It consists of a handheld reader and a sensor, which is sited on the arm. When the reader unit is passed over the sensor, the reader shows a reading based on interstitial fluid glucose levels. The sensor lasts for up to 14 days and then needs to be replaced. The reader can show a trace for the last 8 hours and displays an arrow showing the direction the glucose reading is heading.

Mid and South Essex Clinical Commissioning Groups (M&SECCGs) commission use of FreeStyle® Libre on a restricted basis, and only for people with diabetes on insulin, aged 4 and above, attending specialist care using multiple daily injections or insulin pump therapy, who have been assessed by the specialist diabetes clinician and deemed to meet one or more of the criteria for funding (*click here to view the funding criteria:* <https://southendccg.nhs.uk/your-health-services/healthcare-professionals/medicines-management/bnf-chapter-6-endocrine/endocrine-diabetes/2794-flash-glucose-scanning-commissioning-policy/file> ), as well as people with Type 1 diabetes or insulin treated Type 2 diabetes who are living with a learning disability and recorded on their GP Learning Disability register<sup>1</sup>.

In November 2020, FreeStyle® Libre 2 sensor was added to the NHS Drug Tariff. This is the second-generation FreeStyle flash scanning system, the main difference between it and its predecessor is additional optional, real-time glucose alarms that alerts the user to low or high glucose levels. FreeStyle® Libre 2 cost the same as FreeStyle® Libre. The funding criteria for FreeStyle® Libre 2 is the same as FreeStyle® Libre. Patients already funded for FreeStyle® Libre are eligible for FreeStyle® Libre 2. FreeStyle Libre® 2 Sensors are not interchangeable with FreeStyle Libre Sensors and require a different reader or an update to the FreeStyle LibreLink app to scan and receive the results. The readers are available from the specialist diabetes team.

#### Notes to prescribers in primary care

- FreeStyle® Libre 2 will be gradually rolled out to patients as part of their routine review with the specialist diabetes team.
- Freestyle® Libre 2 sensor is an alternative to Freestyle® Libre sensor, ensure that both sensors are not prescribed for the same patient. If a patient is switched to FreeStyle® Libre 2 sensor, ensure that FreeStyle® Libre is deleted from the repeat record before adding FreeStyle® Libre 2.
- In order to avoid waste, ensure that the patient has used up previously prescribed FreeStyle® Libre sensor before switching to FreeStyle® Libre 2.

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<sup>1</sup> In November 2020, the criteria for NHS England flash glucose monitoring reimbursement was updated to include people with Type 1 diabetes or insulin treated Type 2 diabetes who are living with a learning disability and recorded on their GP Learning Disability register.

<b>References</b>	NHS England flash glucose monitoring funding arrangements (updated November 2020) <a href="https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/flash-glucose-monitoring-national-arrangements-for-funding-of-relevant-diabetes-patients/">https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/flash-glucose-monitoring-national-arrangements-for-funding-of-relevant-diabetes-patients/</a>
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