

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 6557

**Please reply to:**  
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15 September 2021

## **Freedom of Information Act 2000**

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to patient blood glucose monitoring meters.

*You asked:*

*1. Do you have any guidelines or formularies in place which govern the use of patient blood glucose monitoring meters at the point of care?*

*If yes please provide the details of these guidelines.*

*2. Do you have any guidelines or formularies in place which govern the use of patient blood ketone monitoring meters at the point of care?*

*If yes please provide the details of these guidelines.*

*3. From the options below, please indicate the closest proportion of consolidated blood glucose and ketone meters in use at your site as compared to separate meters:*

- a. 10% consolidated meters vs 90% separate meters*
- b. 25% consolidated meters vs 75% separate meters*
- c. 50% consolidated meters vs 50% separate meters*
- d. 75% consolidated meters vs 25 % separate meters*
- e. 90% consolidated meters vs 10% separate meters*

**Trust response:**

1. Yes. Please see below. Personal details and commercially sensitive information have been redacted under Sections 40 and 43 of the Act.

## NHS West Kent CCG Preferred List of Blood Glucose Monitoring equipment and needles

These Guidelines are intended to assist healthcare professionals in the selection of appropriate blood glucose meters and testing strips for patients to self-monitor their blood glucose levels. These Guidelines should be used in conjunction with West Kent Self-Monitoring Blood Glucose (SMBG) Guidelines.

In order to reduce the confusion to patients and practices that arises with the vast supply of meters available and in order to ensure clinical and cost effective prescribing of strips and lancets, NHS West Kent CCG has developed a preferred list of blood glucose meters suitable for prescribing in the local health economy.

These meters are intended for use by patients with Type 2 diabetes. They may well also be appropriate for Type 1 diabetics, with the exception of those patients with complex needs (see below).

The meters on the preferred list have been selected by a multi-disciplinary group and choices were based on the following criteria:

- All meters included on the preferred list are required to achieve the updated International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) standards 15197:2015 by the end of June 2018.
- Patient convenience including: sample volume required; spoken instructions and readings for the visually impaired; ease of disposal.
- Service available from the manufacturing company e.g. free device, education, technical advice provided.
- Cost effectiveness.

The need for a meter for newly diagnosed diabetics will be assessed by a healthcare professional (HCP) and if required a suitable meter will be supplied to the patient, free of charge from their healthcare professional.

In the absence of justifiable reasons, patients should be dissuaded from purchasing their own meter and should be made aware that test strips or lancets **will not** be prescribed on the NHS for a meter that has **not** been obtained from their GP practice or diabetes clinic in line with the NHS West Kent CCG preferred list of blood glucose monitoring meters.

### Existing Patients

It is appreciated that some patients will already be using meters that are not on the recommended list of products.

**These patients should continue using their meter until such time that they express a wish to change their meter or are happy to change to a meter on the formulary following a discussion with their healthcare professional at their next review.** The patient should then be supplied with a meter in accordance with this guidance, unless there are extenuating circumstances. Should the HCP decide that extenuating circumstances apply, then prescriptions for the appropriate strips and lancets should continue to be issued, the reasons for supply outside of the guidance should be documented on the patient's medical record.

### Individuals to be excluded

Occasionally, for specific individuals, the diabetes specialist service will initiate an alternative meter to meet specific patient needs and will inform the GP of this in order to support on-going prescribing of consumable.

Therefore:

- Patients on insulin pumps have a blood glucose testing meter integrated with the insulin pump so the appropriate test strip needs to be prescribed (they are therefore automatically excluded) from the preferred meters list.
- Children and young adults should be provided with whichever test strips are recommended by the specialist diabetes team.
- It is important that any change in glucose testing equipment for adults with Type 1 diabetes does not disrupt their pattern of blood glucose testing as advised by the specialist diabetes team, who may also require downloading of data via software.
- Patients should not be automatically swapped without discussing the change with them and they've received appropriate training on the use of the new meter from their practice nurse









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**Final Version:** Ratified by: NHS WKCCG MOG; CRG Diabetes West Kent

**Date:** March 2020

**Review Date:** - March 2021, Prices taken from Electronic Drug Tariff March 2020, due to fluctuating price changes, the NHS West Kent CCG Preferred List of Blood Glucose Monitoring equipment and needles will be reviewed annually in collaboration with the local diabetes health community/Clinical Reference Group for Diabetes (CRG).

NHS West Kent CCG Preferred List of Blood Glucose Monitoring equipment, lancets and needles



Meter Name	GlucoRx Nexus*	GlucoRx Nexus* Mini-Ultra	GlucoRx Nexus* Voice*	Accu-Chek Performa Nano*	GlucoMen Areo*	Wavesense Jazz*	Finetest Lite*	True Metrix*
Product photo								
Strips	GlucoRx Nexus Strips Same strip for all three devices			Accu-Chek Performa strips	GlucoMen areo Sensor	WaveSense Jazz	Finetest Lite test strips	True Metrix test strips
Price*								
Lancets	GlucoRx Lancets (0.31mm/30 gauge; [redacted])			FastClick (0.3mm/30 gauge; [redacted])	Glucioject Lancets (0.20mm/33 gauge; [redacted])	AgaMatrix Ultra-Thin lancets [redacted]	Greenlan lancets [redacted]	TruePlus lancets [redacted]
Information	Free software to upload and store test data from the GlucoRx meters onto home PC Meets DVLA criteria ( <a href="#">click on link below</a> ) *GlucoRx Nexus* Voice suitable for visually impaired			18 Months strips life, 500 Test Memory, Data cannot be altered or deleted, results can be downloaded to PC Meets DVLA criteria ( <a href="#">link below</a> )	Contactless download to a smartphone (app), haematocrit compensation, auto-coding, large memory Meets DVLA criteria ( <a href="#">link below</a> )	1,865 Test Memory: Enough memory to store 5 tests a day for a year. Downloadable results	Fast measuring speed, generating results in just 5 seconds. 500 Test Memory	Software to upload and store data. Fast measuring speed (4 seconds). 500 tests memory (with time and date). Event tagging. Ketone test reminder.

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Page 2


Meter Name	AccuChek Mobile® Suitable for patients on Insulin	Glucomen Areo 2K® - Ketone and Glucose (Diabetes Specialist Nurse initiation)
Product photo		
Strips	Roche AccuChek Mobile Cassette.	Glucomen® areo Sensor (50 [redacted] for glucose testing) Glucomen® areo Ketone sensors (10 individually foil wrapped = [redacted])
Price*	[redacted]	[redacted]
Lancets	Fastclick Lancets (0.3mm/30 gauge; [redacted])	Glucioject Lancets PLUS (100 = [redacted] 0.20mm/33 gauge)
Information	2000 Test Memory, Data cannot be altered or deleted, results can be downloaded to PC Meets DVLA criteria.	People with Type 1 diabetes for optional ketone testing.

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Page 3

  
 NHS  
 West Kent  
 Clinical Commissioning Group

Preferred Insulin Needle

Insulin needle	Cost
TriCare Pen needle range 4mm -8 mm, suitable for all commonly used pens	
NEON Verifine® range 4-12mm, suitable for all commonly used pens	
Glucorx Finepoint® range 4-12mm, suitable for all commonly used pens	

\*Prices taken from Electronic Drug Tariff March 2020

Meter	Useful contacts and websites
Glucorx Nexus®	
Glucorx Nexus® Voice	
Glucorx Nexus® Mini	
Accu-Chek Performa Nano®	
GlucoMen Areo®	
Wavesense Jazz®	
Finetest Lite®	
True Metrix®	

**DVLA's current medical guidelines for professionals – conditions D to F**

DVLA's guide for medical professionals to help them with enquiries from the public about driving with various conditions  
<https://www.gov.uk/current-medical-guidelines-dvla-guidance-for-professionals-conditions-d-to-f>

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Page 4

2. The Trust has consolidated hospital meters in use at our sites via POC.