

North East North Cumbria (NENC) – Flash Glucose monitoring (Freestyle Libre) – Position Statement

At a meeting of the NENC CCG Joint Committee on 2nd May 2019 it was agreed that CCGs would endorse the NTAG Position Statement¹ on Flash Glucose Monitoring:

- **Initiation will ONLY be made by a diabetes specialist** and will be for a 6 month trial basis initially
- Patients must meet the NHSE criteria² for the device:
 - People with Type 1 diabetes OR with any form of diabetes on haemodialysis and on insulin treatment who, in either of the above, are clinically indicated as requiring **intensive monitoring >8 times daily**, as demonstrated on a meter download/review over the past 3 months
 - OR with diabetes associated with cystic fibrosis on insulin treatment
 - Pregnant women with Type 1 Diabetes - 12 months in total inclusive of post-delivery period.
 - People with Type 1 diabetes unable to routinely self-monitor blood glucose due to disability who require carers to support glucose monitoring and insulin management.
 - People with Type 1 diabetes for whom the specialist diabetes MDT determines have occupational (e.g. working in insufficiently hygienic conditions to safely facilitate finger-prick testing) or psychosocial circumstances that warrant a 6-month trial of Libre with appropriate adjunct support.
 - Previous self-funders of Flash Glucose Monitors with Type 1 diabetes where those with clinical responsibility for their diabetes care are satisfied that their clinical history suggests that they would have satisfied one or more of these criteria prior to them commencing use of Flash Glucose Monitoring had these criteria been in place prior to April 2019 AND has shown improvement in HbA1c since self-funding.
 - For those with Type 1 diabetes and recurrent severe hypoglycemia or impaired awareness of hypoglycemia, NICE suggests that Continuous Glucose Monitoring with an alarm is the standard.
- OR have frequent admissions (>2 per year) with diabetes ketoacidosis (DKA)
- The hospital will supply the monitoring device and a 28d supply of sensors (ie two sensors, one of which is supplied free by Abbott) and write to patient's GP practice requesting that they continue to prescribe during the trial period using the template letter in Appendix 1 -4 (Adults new and existing, Children new and existing)
- At 6 months the patient will be reviewed by the diabetes specialist and will only continue to receive flash glucose monitoring if they meet criteria listed in the NTAG statement, the specialist will communicate this to the patient's GP
- Annual assessment of continuing benefit by the specialist service thereafter
- Data from all patients should be submitted to the national audit
- **Previous self-funders are ONLY eligible for NHS funded treatment if they meet the NTAG criteria**
- Secondary Care will only be reimbursed for the costs associated with initiating Freestyle Libre through obtaining prior approval via VBC Checker. VBC Checker will be updated to reflect the new guidance. Any prescribing of Freestyle Libre without prior approval to demonstrate that the patient meets the appropriate criteria will not be reimbursed by the CCG.
- Adjunct blood testing strips should continue to be prescribed based on individual patient needs according to locally agreed best value guidelines with an expectation that demand/frequency of supply will be reduced.
- Patients will also require a 7L Sharps Bin for the safe disposal of used Freestyle Libre® applicators and sensors. This can be prescribed on an FP10 prescription by the GP.

1. [Flash-Glucose-Monitoring-NTAG-position-statement-April-2019-final \(2\).pdf](#)

2. [flash-glucose-monitoring-national-arrangements-funding.pdf](#)

APPENDIX 1. Letters to GPs for Adults newly started on FSL



Adult FSL letter to GP
for new patients

APPENDIX 2. Letters to GPs for Adults already on FSL



Adult FSL letter to
GP for current users

APPENDIX 3. Letters to GPs for Children newly started on FSL



Paediatric FSL letter
to GP for new patient

APPENDIX 4. Letters to GPs for Children already on FSL



Paediatric FSL letter
to GP for current use