

Primary Care guidance on the prescribing of Flash Glucose Monitoring (FreeStyle Libre/Libre 2®) in NHS East and North Hertfordshire CCG February 2021 update

In March 2019, NHS England issued guidance relating to national arrangements for funding of Flash Glucose Monitoring for relevant diabetes patients:-

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE GUIDANCE](#)

The national guidance includes patient criteria for funding and NHS East and North Hertfordshire CCG (ENHCCG) reviewed their commissioning policy to reflect the national criteria. National funding is provided for a 2 year period, after which, CCGs will make a decision on whether to continue funding. [See link for policy](#)

In February 2021 ENHCCG approved use of FreeStyle Libre 2® for new and existing patients:

- **New patients** – no change to approval or supply process (see below)
- **Existing patients** – upgrade to **FreeStyle Libre 2®** to be led by diabetes specialists. See Herts guidance on upgrading to FreeStyle Libre 2® for further details, available at: [LINK](#)

See page 3 for more information about FreeStyle Libre 2®.

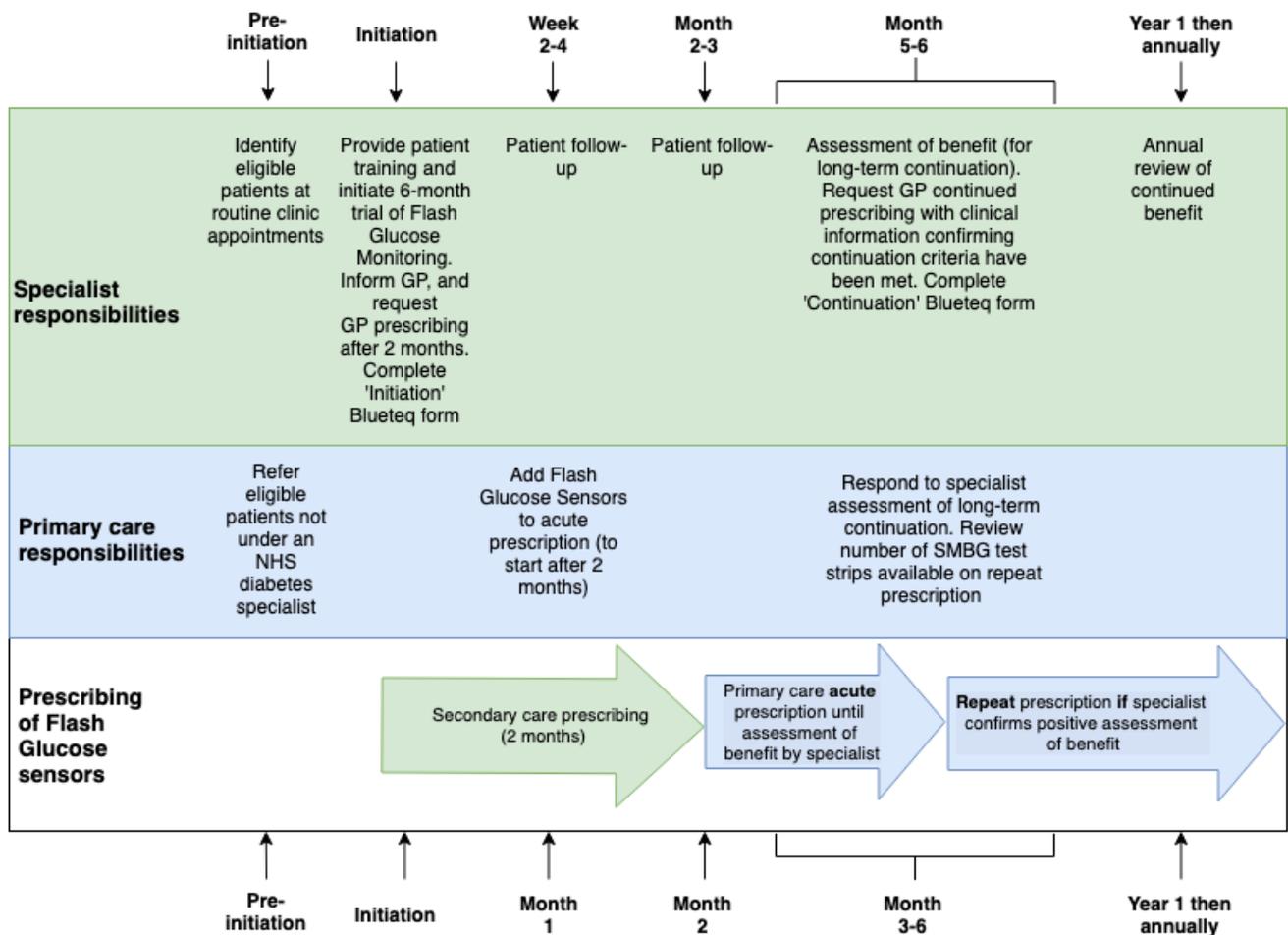
Key points:

- The decision to start Freestyle Libre/Libre 2® will only be made by the diabetes specialist team and will initially be for a 6 month trial period.
- Patients will be reviewed by their specialist diabetes team at their next clinic appointment/annual review for consideration for Freestyle Libre/Libre 2®.
- Patients who fulfil the criteria for funding will be trained and provided with the scanner device by the specialist diabetes team.
- Patients will be asked to sign a patient agreement which sets out the actions and behaviours that they are expected to comply with, and consequences if they do not.
- For new patients, FreeStyle Libre/Libre 2® is to be initiated, managed and the first 2-months' supply provided by a provider Trust consultant led specialist diabetes team only. Previous self-funders – GPs to take on prescribing following specialist review/confirmation that the patient meets both NHS England initiation and continuation criteria.
- **For new patients**, GP will be informed that Freestyle Libre/Libre 2® has been initiated and asked to take over prescribing after an initial 2-month supply by the specialist. The specialist diabetes team will review the patient after approximately 6 months for eligibility for continued funding. At 6 months the specialist diabetes team will advise the patient's GP of the outcome of the review and if Freestyle Libre/Libre 2® is to continue or has been stopped.
- **For previous self-funders**, where eligible for NHS funding, GP will be informed that the patient meets both NHS England initiation and continuation criteria, and asked to take over prescribing straight away.
- Patients will then be subject to annual review by the Specialist Diabetes Teams for eligibility for continued funding. A maximum of 26 sensors to be provided over a 12-month period.

In December 2020 HMMC approved use for a new NHSE cohort:

- 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.

Summary



(Process map [with adaptations] used with the permission of NCL CCG)

ENHCCG Resources

ENHCCG website information: <https://www.enhertscg.nhs.uk/endocrine-system>

Patient information leaflet: [Link](#)

Patient agreement contract: ([Adults](#)) ([Children](#))

Primary care information sheet: [Link](#)

FreeStyle Libre 2® Frequently Asked Questions

Indications for Use

The FreeStyle Libre 2 Flash Glucose Monitoring System is indicated for measuring interstitial fluid glucose levels in people (aged 4 and older) with diabetes mellitus, including pregnant women. The Reader and Sensor are designed to replace blood glucose testing in the self-management of diabetes, including dosing of insulin. The indication for children (aged 4-12) is limited to those who are supervised by a caregiver who is at least 18 years of age. The caregiver is responsible for managing or assisting the child to manage the Reader and Sensor and also for interpreting or assisting the child to interpret Sensor glucose readings.

What are the differences between the FreeStyle Libre system and the FreeStyle Libre 2 system?

Just like the FreeStyle Libre system, the FreeStyle Libre 2 system is discreet, convenient and easy to use¹. Because of its excellent accuracy^{2,3}, there's no need to prick your finger when using the FreeStyle Libre 2 system - even when glucose is low, falling or rapidly changing. However, finger pricks are required if glucose readings and alarms do not match symptoms or expectations.

The FreeStyle Libre 2 system also offers peace of mind when you need it most with three optional real-time alarms for those who need them. There is a Low Glucose Alarm, High Glucose Alarm and Signal Loss Alarm.

More information about the FreeStyle Libre 2 system: www.freestylediabetes.co.uk/update

Does the patient require a new reader to scan the FreeStyle Libre 2 sensor?

The FreeStyle Libre 2 sensor can be scanned with either the free, FreeStyle LibreLink app⁴ or with a FreeStyle Libre 2 reader. However, patients choose which device they want to receive alarms: FreeStyle Libre 2 reader or FreeStyle LibreLink app. They must start their FreeStyle Libre 2 sensor with that selected device. Once the patient scans their FreeStyle Libre 2 sensor with that device, they can receive alarms only on that device.

Many patients choose to use the free, FreeStyle LibreLink app⁴ to scan their sensor. These patients can continue to use their app to scan FreeStyle Libre 2 sensors, they do not need to download a new app. The patient must ensure that they have updated their app to the latest version (2.5) to enable additional functionality of the FreeStyle Libre 2 system.

Where can I direct patients for further information?

- Educational material for patients and healthcare professionals can be accessed at: <https://progress.freestylediabetes.co.uk/>
- Product Information can be found at: www.freestylediabetes.co.uk
- User manuals: <https://www.diabetescare.abbott/support/manuals/uk.html>
- For additional support and troubleshooting, patients should contact the Abbott Customer Careline via:

Email, Live Chat, Request a Call Back:

<https://www.freestylelibre.co.uk/libre/help/contact-us.html>

Phone:

0800 170 1177 (08:00 – 20:00 Mon – Fri, 09:00 – 17:00 Sat – excl. bank holidays)

References

1. Data on file, Abbott Diabetes Care, Inc.
2. Alva S, et al. Accuracy of a 14-Day Factory-Calibrated Continuous Glucose Monitoring System With Advanced Algorithm in Pediatric and Adult Population With Diabetes. *Journal of Diabetes Science and Technology*. September 2020. doi:10.1177/1932296820958754.
3. Data on file, Abbott Diabetes Care, Inc.
4. Patients choose which device they want to receive alarms: FreeStyle Libre 2 reader or FreeStyle LibreLink app. They must start their FreeStyle Libre 2 sensor with that selected device. Once the patient scans their FreeStyle Libre 2 sensor with that device, they can receive alarms only on that device. The FreeStyle LibreLink app is only compatible with certain mobile devices and operating systems. Please check the website for more information about device compatibility before using the app. Use of FreeStyle LibreLink requires registration with LibreView