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Section:	Prescription Drugs	**Effective Date:**	April 1, 2021
Subsection:	Miscellaneous Products	**Original Policy Date:**	August 24, 2018
Subject:	Continuous Glucose Monitors	**Page:**	1 of 4

Last Review Date: March 12, 2021

Continuous Glucose Monitors (CGM)

Description

Dexcom G6 CGM System, Freestyle Libre 14 day CGM System, Freestyle Libre 2 CGM System

Refer to the durable medical equipment benefit (DME) for coverage of all other CGM monitors and supplies.

Background
Continuous glucose monitors (CGMs) are devices that measure glucose levels in interstitial fluid at programmable intervals. CGMs use sensors that are inserted under the skin and work by extracting glucose from the interstitial fluid, measuring and recording the glucose level and converting these measurements into equivalent blood glucose readings. The sensor can determine if glucose levels are too high (hyperglycemia) or too low (hypoglycemia), and how glucose levels are changing. This can assist in calculating the insulin dosage needed to manage glycemic control. These monitors reduce the need for fingerstick testing in patients with diabetes and should be used as an adjunct to standard care. Sensors can be used for a various number of days, depending on the product and manufacturer.

Regulatory Status
Continuous glucose monitors are approved by the FDA for the regular quantitative measurement of glucose levels.

Related policies
Continuous Glucose Monitor Supplies, Diabetic Test Strips

Policy

This policy statement applies to clinical review performed for pre-service (Prior Approval, Precertification, Advanced Benefit Determination, etc.) and/or post-service claims.

Continuous glucose monitors may be considered **medically necessary** for monitoring blood glucose levels in patients with Type 1 or type 2 Diabetes Mellitus and if the conditions indicated below are met.

Prior-Approval Requirements

Patients who have filled at least one cumulative ≥90 day supply of a single insulin in the past 180 days are exempt from these PA requirements for one monitor per lifetime. Additional monitor requests will require PA requirements to be met.

Diagnosis

Patient must have the following:

1. Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus
2. Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus
   a. Insulin dependent with > 3 insulin injections per day **OR** insulin pump therapy with frequent dosage adjustments for > 6 months
   b. Diabetes is uncontrolled with documented average frequency of glucose self-testing > 4 times per day during the previous two months
   c. A1c > 7.0% **OR** frequent hypoglycemic episodes
   d. Patient has completed a comprehensive diabetes education program
   e. Patient will share device readings with physician or healthcare professional as part of overall diabetes management
   f. **NO** dual therapy with Diabetic Test Strips at Prior Authorization quantities

Prior – Approval *Renewal* Requirements

Diagnosis

Patient must have the following:

Type 1 or type 2 Diabetes Mellitus

AND ALL of the following:

1. Current monitor is not functionally operating
2. Current monitor is out of warranty
3. **NO** dual therapy with Diabetic Test Strips at Prior Authorization quantities

Policy Guidelines

Pre - PA Allowance

None

Prior - Approval Limits

Quantity 1 monitor

Duration 12 months

Prior – Approval *Renewal* Limits

Quantity 1 monitor

Duration 12 months – One renewal **ONLY**

Rationale

Summary

Continuous glucose monitors (CGMs) are devices that measure glucose levels in interstitial fluid at programmable intervals. CGMs use sensors that are inserted under the skin and work by extracting glucose from the interstitial fluid, measuring and recording the glucose level and converting these measurements into equivalent blood glucose readings. The sensor can determine if glucose levels are too high (hyperglycemia) or too low (hypoglycemia), and how glucose levels are changing. This can assist in calculating the insulin dosage needed to manage glycemic control. These monitors reduce the need for fingerstick testing in patients with diabetes and should be used as an adjunct to standard care. Sensors can be used for a various number of days, depending on the product and manufacturer.

Prior authorization is required to ensure the safe, clinically appropriate and cost-effective use of continuous glucose monitors while maintaining optimal therapeutic outcomes.

Policy History

Date	Action
August 2018	Addition to PA
November 2018	Annual review
February 2019	Addition of statement: Refer to the durable medical equipment benefit (DME) for coverage of all other CGM monitors and supplies
March 2019	Annual review
June 2020	Annual review
October 2020	Addition of Freestyle Libre 2 CGM System
December 2020	Annual editorial review. Removed Dexcom G5 CGM from policy due to discontinued availability of the sensors and transmitters
January 2021	Removed Freestyle Libre 10 day CGM from policy due to being discontinued
February 2021	Revised initiation requirements so patients with Type 1 diabetes do not have any additional criteria to meet
March 2021	Annual review

Keywords

This policy was approved by the FEP® Pharmacy and Medical Policy Committee on March 12, 2021 and is effective on April 1, 2021.