BlueCross BlueShield
Federal Employee Program
Federal Employee Program®
1310 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
202.942.1000
Fax 202.942.1125

5.99.015

Section:	Prescription Drugs	**Effective Date:**	January 1, 2023
Subsection:	Miscellaneous Products	**Original Policy Date:**	August 24, 2018
Subject:	CGM Supplies	**Page:**	1 of 5

Last Review Date: December 2, 2022

CGM Supplies

Description

Dexcom G5 sensors, Dexcom G6 sensors, Freestyle Libre 10 day sensors, Freestyle Libre 14 day sensors, Freestyle Libre 2 sensors, Freestyle Libre 3 sensors, Dexcom G5 transmitters, Dexcom G6 transmitters

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

Background

Continuous glucose monitor sensors (CGMS) and transmitters are used with continuous glucose monitors (CGMs). 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. Sensors and transmitters need to be replaced after varying amounts of time, depending on the product and manufacturer.

Regulatory Status

FDA-approved indication: Continuous glucose monitor supplies are approved by the FDA for the regular quantitative measurement of glucose levels.

Related policies

Continuous Glucose Monitors, Diabetes 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 monitor supplies 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

Diagnosis

Patient must have the following:

Type 1 or type 2 Diabetes Mellitus

AND ALL of the following:

1. Must have corresponding monitor or corresponding mobile app for requested supplies
2. Must have documented reason for requiring additional supply
3. **NO** dual therapy with blood glucose test strips at Prior Authorization quantities

Prior – Approval *Renewal* Requirements

Same as above

Policy Guidelines

Pre - PA Allowance

Patients eligible to receive Pre-PA*: patients who have filled at least one cumulative ≥90 day supply of a single insulin, a glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) agonist injection indicated for the treatment of diabetes mellitus, or an insulin/GLP-1 combination injection in the past 180 days;* ***OR*** *patient has filled a CGM/CGM supplies in the past 180 days;* ***OR*** *the patient has been confirmed to have utilized a CGM monitor/mobile app for at least the last 6 months. If the patient has not been utilizing a CGM monitor/mobile app for at least the last 6 months, patient must meet criteria for a continuous glucose monitor (CGM) (Refer to 5.99.014 Continuous Glucose Monitors).*

Quantity

Sensors	Quantity Limit
Freestyle Libre 10 day	9 sensors per 90 days **OR**
Freestyle Libre 14 day	6 sensors per 84 days **OR**
Freestyle Libre 2	6 sensors per 84 days **OR**
Freestyle Libre 3	6 sensors per 84 days **OR**
Dexcom G6 (10 days)	9 sensors per 90 days **OR**
Dexcom G5 (7 days)	12 sensors per 84 days

AND

Transmitters	Quantity Limit
Dexcom G5	1 transmitter per 90 days **OR**
Dexcom G6	1 transmitter per 90 days

Prior - Approval Limits

Quantity

Sensors	Quantity Limit
Freestyle Libre 10 day	12 sensors per 90 days **OR**
Freestyle Libre 14 day	8 sensors per 90 days **OR**
Freestyle Libre 2	8 sensors per 90 days **OR**
Freestyle Libre 3	8 sensors per 90 days **OR**
Dexcom G6 (10 days)	12 sensors per 90 days **OR**
Dexcom G5 (7 days)	16 sensors per 90 days

AND

Transmitters	Quantity Limit
Dexcom G5	2 transmitters per 90 days **OR**
Dexcom G6	2 transmitters per 90 days

Duration 3 months

Prior – Approval *Renewal* Limits

Quantity

Sensors	Quantity Limit

Freestyle Libre 10 day	12 sensors per 90 days **OR**
Freestyle Libre 14 day	8 sensors per 90 days **OR**
Freestyle Libre 2	8 sensors per 90 days **OR**
Freestyle Libre 3	8 sensors per 90 days **OR**
Dexcom G6 (10 days)	12 sensors per 90 days **OR**
Dexcom G5 (7 days)	16 sensors per 90 days

AND

Transmitters	**Quantity Limit**
Dexcom G5	2 transmitters per 90 days **OR**
Dexcom G6	2 transmitters per 90 days

Duration 3 months (one renewal per year)

Rationale

Summary

Continuous glucose monitor sensors (CGMS) and transmitters are used with continuous glucose monitors (CGMs). 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. Sensors and transmitters need to be replaced after varying amounts of time, depending on the product and manufacturer.

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

Policy History

Date	Action
August 2018	Addition to PA
October 2018	Addition of lookbacks to Pre-PA Allowance
November 2018	Annual review. Addition of patients who have no paid claim for a CGM monitor must meet monitor criteria for Pre-PA allowance
March 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
September 2019	Addition of option to use corresponding mobile app in lieu of monitor
December 2019	Annual review
June 2020	Annual review
October 2020	Addition of Freestyle Libre 2 sensors
December 2020	Annual review
February 2021	Revised Pre-PA Allowance statement so that only members who have been utilizing a CGM for at least the last 6 months are not required to meet monitor criteria
March 2021	Annual review
August 2021	Updated step edit verbiage to include insulin/GLP-1 combination products or GLP-1 agonist alone as acceptable step edit options. Changed diabetic test strips to blood glucose test strips.
September 2021	Annual review
March 2022	Annual review
October 2022	Addition of Freestyle Libre 3 sensors to policy
December 2022	Annual review

Keywords

This policy was approved by the FEP® Pharmacy and Medical Policy Committee on December 2, 2022 and is effective on January 1, 2023.