

# MCT2D Learning Community Monthly Call

Navigating CGMs

To receive CME/CE credit

**TEXT 66613 to 833-256-8390**

**(by 1:00 PM on December 12)**

**Complete the evaluation online by **December 25**  
at <https://beaumont.cloud-cme.com>**

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# Disclosure

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- Lauren Oshman, M.D. (Course Co-Director): Stocks in publicly traded companies or stock options, excluding diversified mutual funds – Abbott, AbbVie, Johnson & Johnson, Merck & Co.

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# Continuous Glucose Monitors: Tips and Tricks for Type 2 Diabetes

Kara Mizokami-Stout, MD, MSc  
Assistant Professor,  
Division of Metabolism, Endocrinology & Diabetes  
University of Michigan  
Lieutenant Colonel Charles S. Kettles VA Medical Center



# Disclosures

Dr. Mizokami-Stout:

- Funding from NIH NIDDK K23 Career Development Award
- Content Expert for MCT2D

# Objectives

- Understand the benefits and limitations of glucose monitoring in type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM)
- Briefly discuss the different types of continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) devices
- Understand CGM data output
- Briefly discuss CGM coverage in Michigan
- Work through a few CGM case studies

# Objectives

- **Understand the benefits and limitations of glucose monitoring in type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM)**
- Briefly discuss the different types of continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) devices
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- Briefly discuss CGM coverage in Michigan
- Work through a few CGM case studies

# Benefits of Glucose Self-Monitoring in T2DM

- ~25% of 37.3 million (11.3%) Americans with T2DM use insulin
  - Only 39% monitor blood sugar by capillary glucose at least once a day
- Clear benefits of glucose self-monitoring in insulin-requiring T2DM
  - Adjust insulin
  - Prevent hypoglycemia
  - Monitor in illness or exercise
- Possible benefits for non-insulin requiring T2DM

- Reduced HbA1c for T2D on insulin

Glycemic Benefits



- Reduced hypoglycemia

Safety Benefits



- Improved internal motivation
- Increased self-confidence

Behavioral Benefits



- Weight loss
- Increased physical activity

Cardiometabolic Benefits



<https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/data/statistics-report/index.html>

Harris et al, *Diabetes Care*, 2001

Young *JAMA Internal Medicine* 2017

Diabetes Technology, ADA Standards of Care in Diabetes, *Diabetes Care*, 2023

McAndrew et al, *Science of Diabetes Self-Management and Care*, 2013; 39(3):397.

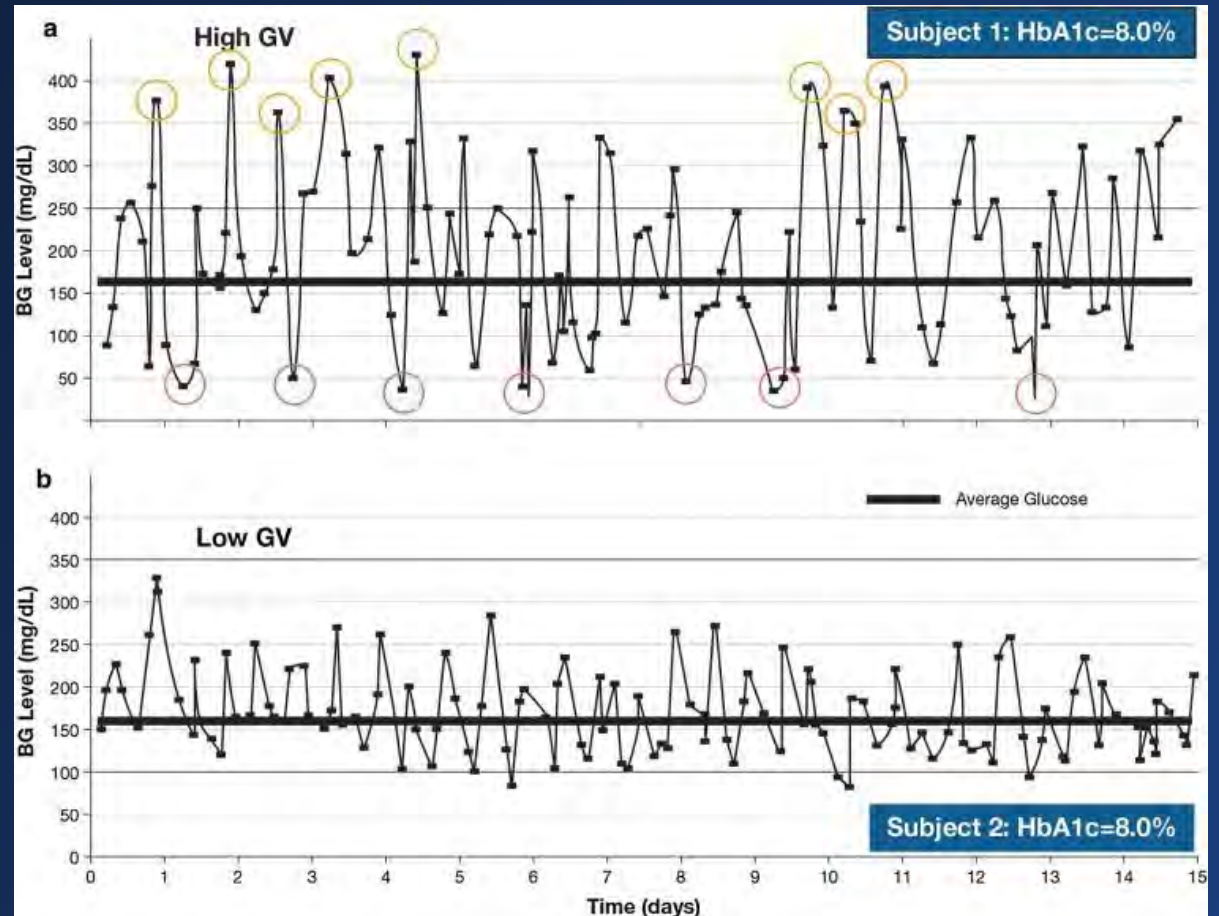


# Limitations of Traditional Glucose Monitoring

Capillary Glucose Monitoring (Fingerstick)	Hemoglobin A1c (A1c)
Invasive, painful, unpleasant and burdensome	Corresponds to estimated average glucose over the past ~3 months
Required several times per day for multiple daily injections	Does not account for glycemic variability and frequent hypoglycemia
Does not provide a comprehensive picture	Inaccurate in patients with conditions that affect red blood cell turnover or recent transfusions
Challenges acquiring the necessary testing strips	Genetic polymorphisms affecting red blood cell lifespan and hemoglobin glycation

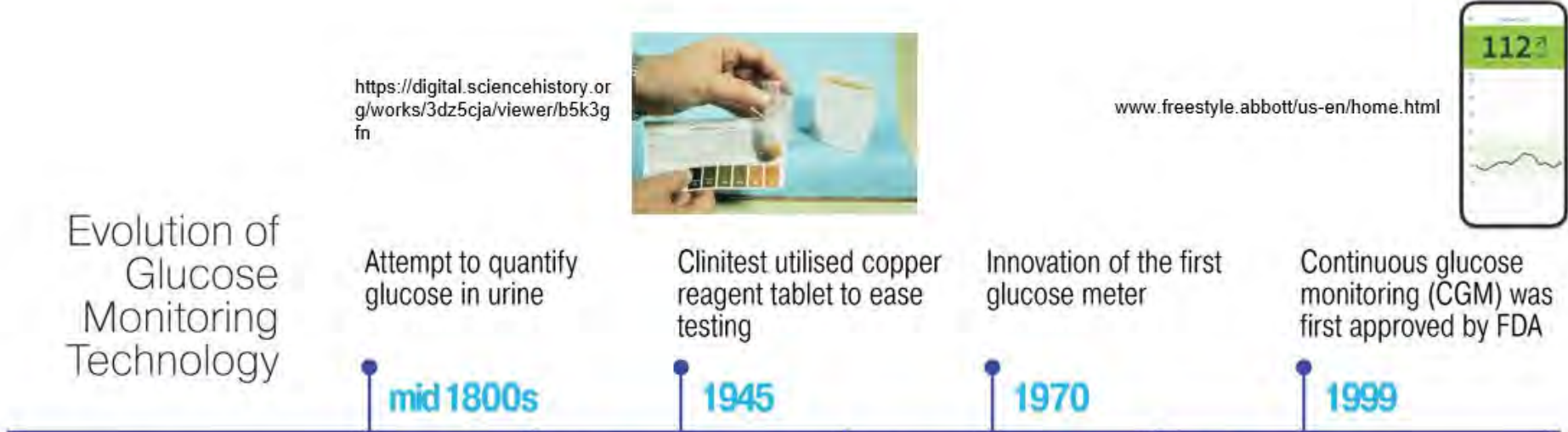
# The Importance of Glucose Variability: A Tale of Two A1c Values

- These graphs show the differences in glucose variability for two patients with an **A1c of 8%**.
- Subject 1 is at substantially higher risk of life-threatening hypoglycemia.



# Evolution of Glucose Monitoring

## Evolution of Glucose Monitoring Technology



<https://digital.sciencehistory.org/works/3dz5cja/viewer/b5k3gfn>



[www.freestyle.abbott/us-en/home.html](http://www.freestyle.abbott/us-en/home.html)



Attempt to quantify glucose in urine

Clinitest utilised copper reagent tablet to ease testing

Innovation of the first glucose meter

Continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) was first approved by FDA

mid 1800s

1945

1970

1999

### Benedict's Test



<https://microbiologyinfo.com/benedicts-test-principle-composition-preparation-procedure-and-result-interpretation>

1908

Commercialisation of urine glucose testing using copper reagent

1965

Destrostix - blood glucose test strip was introduced

1980s

Advanced meters and strips require less blood for testing



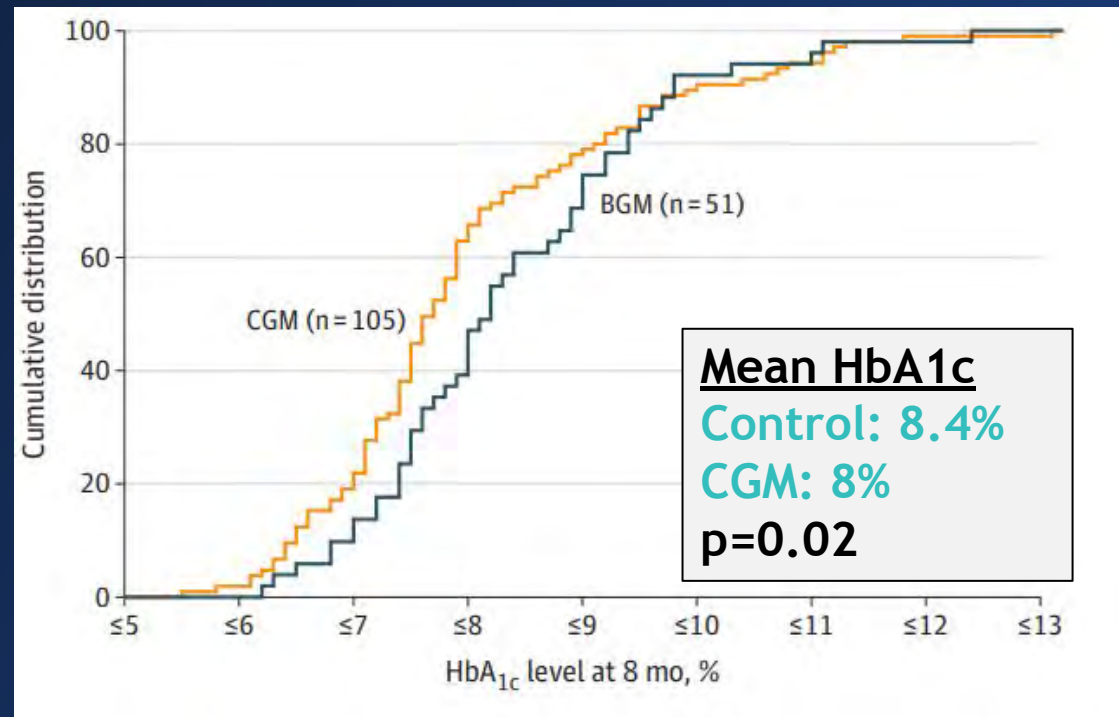
By Christidy at <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=4076166>

# CGM in T2DM: MOBILE Trial

## Glycemic Benefits in Basal Insulin Users

- Multicenter RCT, conducted in primary care practices
- N=175 adults with T2DM on basal insulin therapy
- Intervention: CGM versus usual Care
- Outcome: Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) at 8 months

### Cumulative Distribution of HbA1c at 8 months





# CGM in T2DM: MOBILE Trial

## Glycemic Benefits in Basal Insulin Users

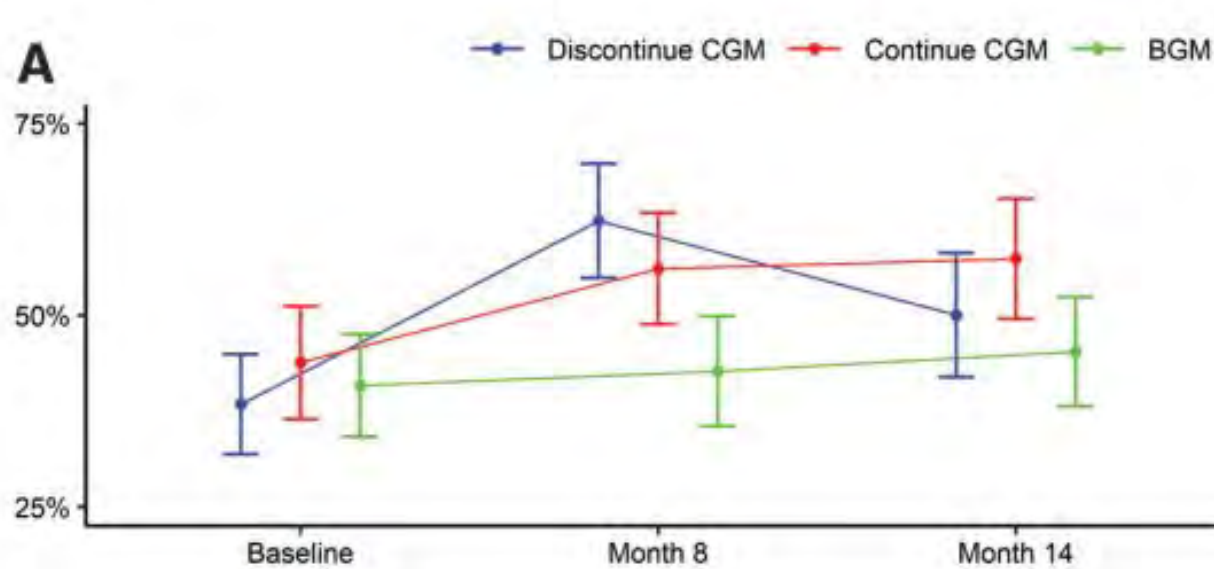
Table 2. Glycemic Outcomes<sup>a</sup>

	Mean (SD)				8-mo Risk-adjusted difference, % (95% CI)	P value <sup>b</sup>
	Baseline		8 mo			
	Continuous glucose monitoring	Blood glucose meter monitoring	Continuous glucose monitoring	Blood glucose meter monitoring		
<b>Primary outcome<sup>c</sup></b>						
No.	115	58	105	51		
HbA <sub>1c</sub> level, %	9.1 (1.0)	9.0 (0.9)	8.0 (1.4)	8.4 (1.3)		.02
Change from baseline, %			-1.1 (1.5)	-0.6 (1.2)	-0.4 (-0.8 to -0.1)	
<b>Key secondary outcomes<sup>d</sup></b>						
No.	114	59	93	53		
% Time in range of 70-180 mg/dL	40 (26)	40 (25)	59 (25)	43 (26)	15 (8 to 23)	<.001
% Time >250 mg/dL <sup>e</sup>	26 (22)	25 (21)	11 (11)	27 (24)	-16 (-21 to -11)	<.001
Mean glucose, mg/dL	209 (48)	206 (45)	179 (43)	206 (53)	-26 (-41 to -12)	<.001

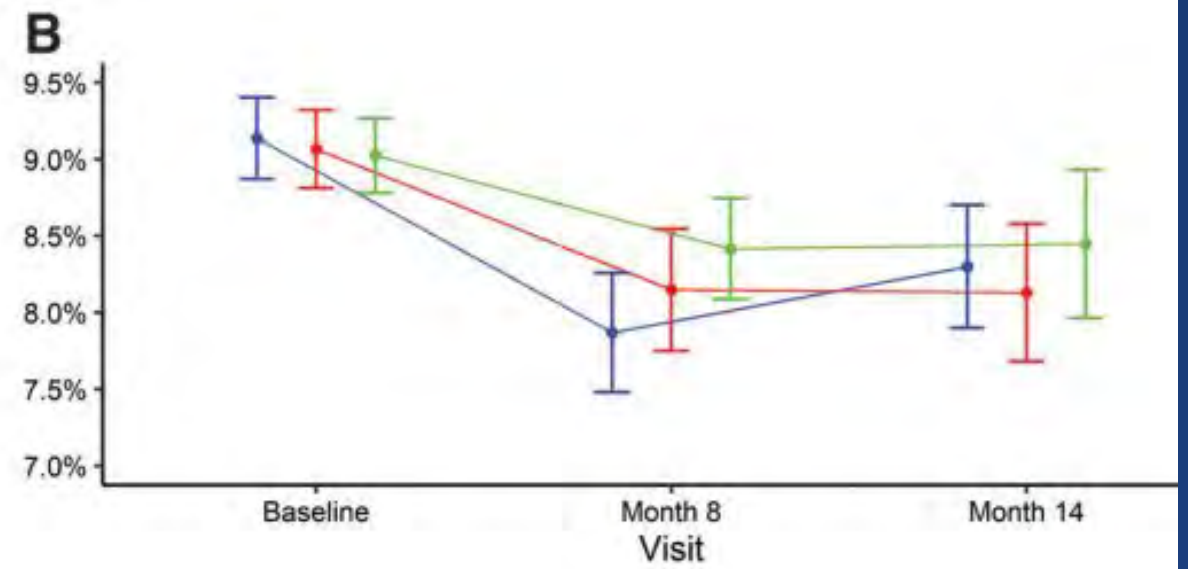
# CGM in T2DM: MOBILE Trial

## Glycemic Effects of Discontinuing CGM

Loss of Time-in-Range Gains after CGM Discontinuation



Loss of HbA1c Gains after CGM Discontinuation



# CGM in T2DM: IMMEDIATE Trial

## Glycemic Benefits in Non-Insulin Users

- Multicenter, open-label RCT
- N=116 adults with T2DM on at least one non-insulin diabetes medication with baseline A1c  $\geq 7.5\%$
- **Intervention:** CGM plus self-management education versus self-management education alone
- **Outcome:** % Time-in-Range at 16 weeks

TABLE 2 CGM metrics between the isCGM + DSME and the DSME arms at follow-up

	isCGM + DSME	DSME	Adjusted mean difference (95% CI)	Adjusted P value
n	51	48		
% TIR (3.9-10.0 mmol/L)	76.3 ± 17.4	65.6 ± 22.6	-9.9 (-17.3 to -2.5)	.009
% time in the tight glycaemic range (3.9-7.8 mmol/L)	50.3 ± 21.9	40.4 ± 23.1	-8.5 (-16.6 to -0.3)	.042
% TAR (> 10.0 mmol/L)	21.2 ± 18.1	30.7 ± 24.5	8.1 (0.5 to 15.7)	.037
% TBR (< 3.9 mmol/L)	1.9 ± 3.5	3.0 ± 6.5	1.3 (-0.8 to 3.3)	.218
% TBR level 2 (< 3.0 mmol/L)	0.6 ± 2.3	0.9 ± 3.1	0.3 (-0.8 to 1.4)	.553
Mean glucose (mmol/L)	8.1 ± 1.5	8.8 ± 2.4	0.6 (-0.2 to 1.3)	.123
SD (mmol/L)	2.2 ± 0.6	2.4 ± 0.6	0.2 (-0.1 to 0.4)	.113
CV (%)	27.3 ± 6.9	28.1 ± 7.1	0.7 (-2.2 to 3.5)	.650
Number of hypoglycaemic events	1 (0.0, 5.0)	0.5 (0.0, 5.3)		
Number of nocturnal hypoglycaemic events	0 (0.0, 2.5)	0 (0.0, 4.0)		
Number of level 2 hypoglycaemic events	0 (0.0, 1.0)	0 (0.0, 1.0)		

**Mean HbA1c**  
**Control: 8.1%**  
**CGM: 7.6%**  
**p=0.048**

# CGM in T2D with Low Carb Nutrition Coaching: A Quality Improvement Study

- Quality improvement study conducted in primary care practices
- N=382 adults with T2DM and HbA1C > 7.5% (goal <7%)
- Intervention: CGM and low-carb nutrition counseling versus usual care
  - n=61 (of possible 185) participated in intervention
- Outcome: A1c at 12 months

## *Nutrition Education and Counseling*

- We discussed the relationship between carbohydrate intake, blood glucose, and insulin.
- We identified 3 main ways that blood glucose can be lowered: food, medication, exercise.
- We discussed the key sources of carbohydrate in the diet: fruits and juice, starchy vegetables and legumes, grains, dairy, and pure sugar (soda, desserts, candy).
- I recommended the goal of gradually reducing carbohydrate intake to <100g net carb per day to improve blood glucose control.
- I recommended starting by choosing a lower-carbohydrate breakfast such as eggs in place of breakfast cereal or toast.
- We discussed carbohydrate counseling using nutrition labels (see below).

The patient was given a symptom log and shown how to record any potential adverse effects of a low carbohydrate diet (e.g. Muscle cramps, headache, fatigue). The patient was instructed to contact the RD with any questions or if symptoms persisted.



# CGM in T2DM: Summary of the Evidence

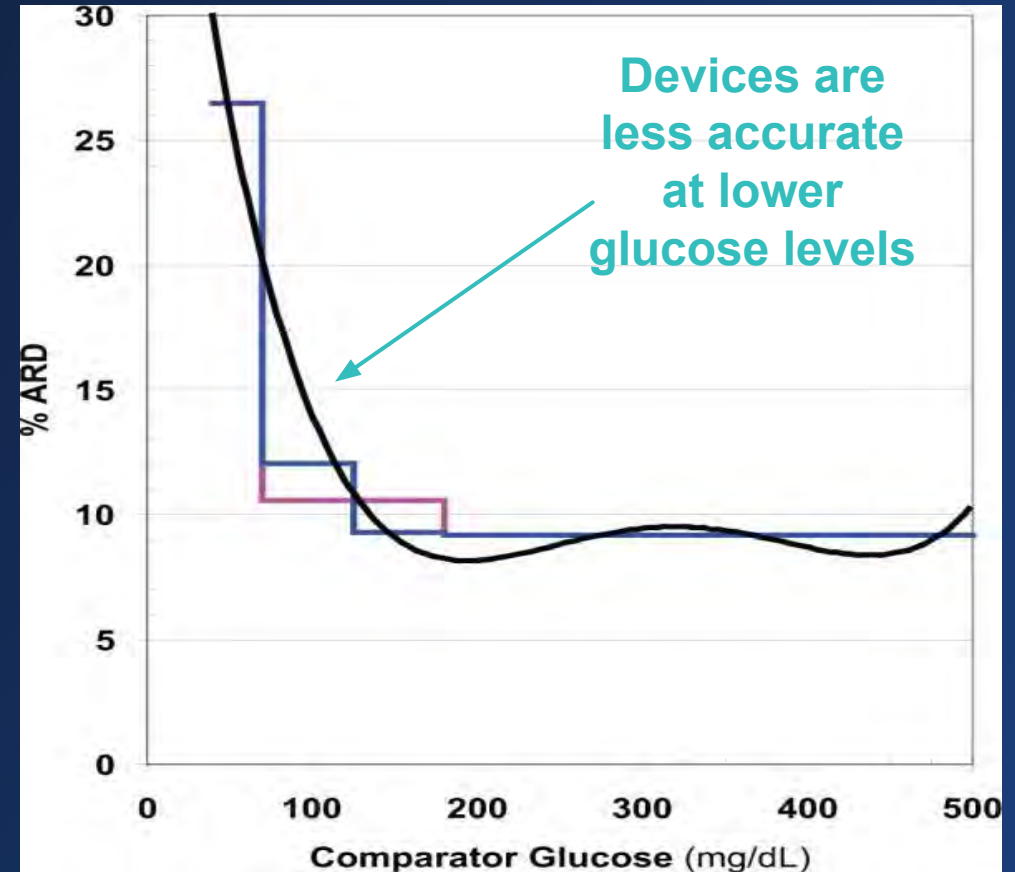
- RCT data demonstrate consistent benefits in glycemic control (↓ A1c, ↑ time in range), hypoglycemia reduction, and treatment satisfaction in insulin requiring T2DM
  - A1c reduction of 0.3-0.4%
  - Glycemic improvements are lost if CGM devices are discontinued
  - **Diabetes guidelines support use of CGM in insulin users**
- Appears to be beneficial for improved glycemic control in non-insulin requiring type 2 diabetes but RCT data is limited
  - **Diabetes guidelines do not yet recommend for non-insulin users**
- Observational studies demonstrate improvements in glycemic control, quality-of-life, acute diabetes events, and all-cause hospitalizations

# Objectives

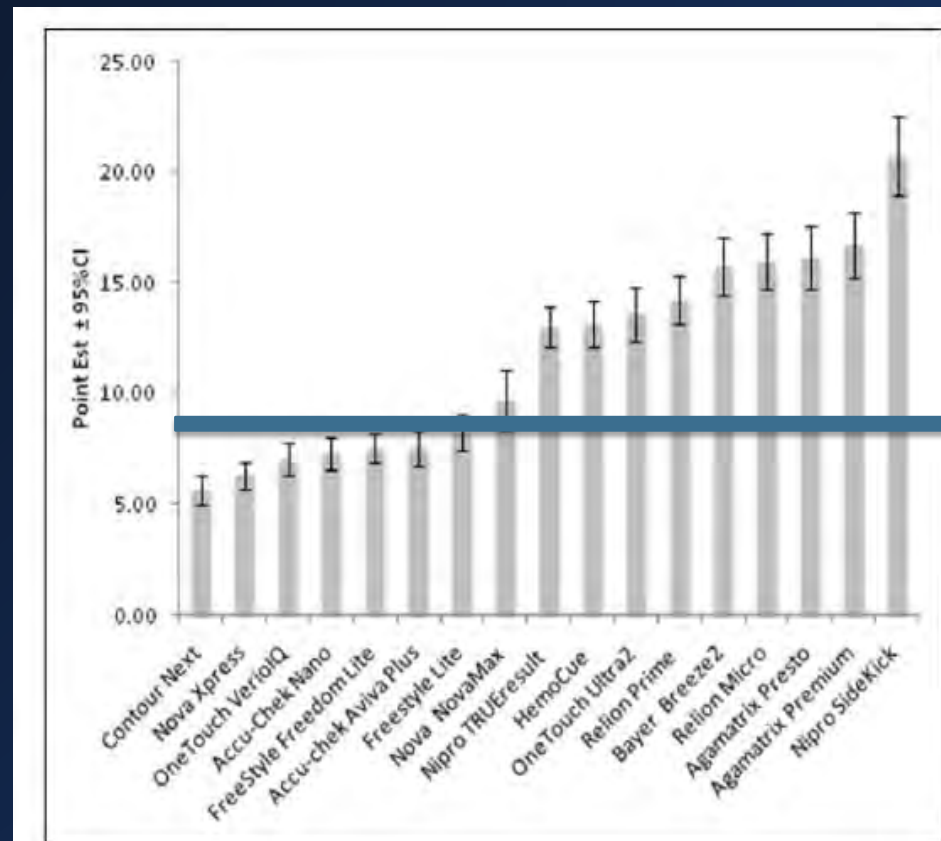
- Understand the benefits and limitations of glucose monitoring in type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM)
- **Briefly discuss the different types of continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) devices**
- Understand CGM data output
- Briefly discuss CGM coverage in Michigan
- Work through a few CGM case studies

# Accuracy: Mean Absolute Relative Difference

- MARD compares glucometer/CGM derived glucose values to true blood glucose measurements
- Lower values (%) = better accuracy
- MARD <10% = “good”
- Devices have different MARD % for varying glucose ranges



# Accuracy: CGM versus Common Brand Glucometers

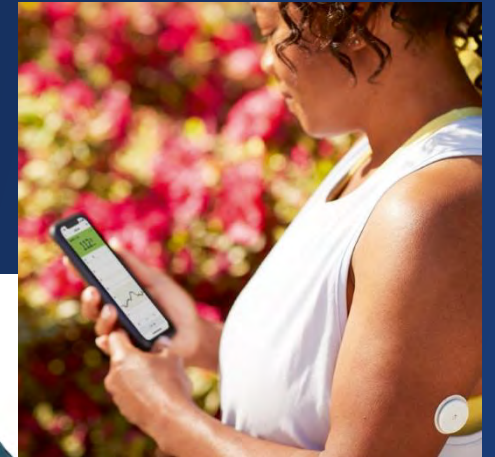


MARD of Personal CGM devices

**Figure 1.** MARD of evaluated glucose meters, shown as the point estimate of the MARD and the 95% confidence interval. Meters are listed in order of increasing overall MARD.

# Personal CGM Devices

- Consists of sensor, +/- transmitter, and receiver:
  - Sensor: places subcutaneously, worn for 10-14 days, measures interstitial glucose every 5-15 minutes
  - +/- Transmitter: sends data (usually Bluetooth) to receiver
  - Receiver: either phone or separate “reader” device to view data, provides a clear picture of wearer’s glucose over the entire day and night, downloadable by user or clinician for longer-term trends
- Other features:
  - Alarms for hyper- and hypoglycemia
  - Data share with family members
  - Arrow system
  - User-input logbook for food, exercise, medications





# Types of Personal CGM Devices



**Dexcom systems  
(G6 and G7)**



**Freestyle Libre systems  
(14-day, Libre 2 and Libre 3)**



**Guardian Connect  
system**



**Eversense CGM system**

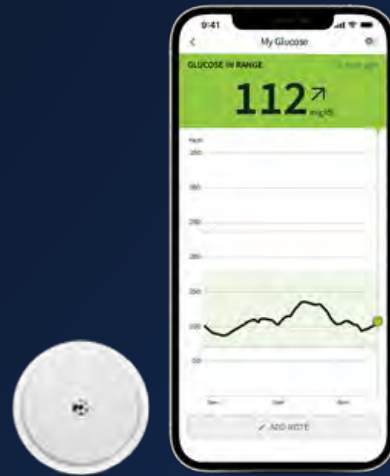
# Types of Personal CGM Devices



**Dexcom systems  
(G6 and G7)**

- **10 days**
- Optional calibration
- Finger-stick glucose check required for back up
- Pairs with phone or receiver
- Real time CGM
- MARD 9%
- **Pairs with pumps**
- **\$\$\$ expensive** if paying out of pocket or copay (e.g., 20% copay)
- Cash: ~\$210 coupon price per month

# Types of Personal CGM Devices



**Freestyle Libre systems  
(14-day, Libre 2 and Libre 3)**

[www.freestyle.abbott/us-en/home.html](http://www.freestyle.abbott/us-en/home.html)

- **14 days**
- Optional calibration
- Finger-stick glucose check required for back up
- Pairs with phone or receiver
- Real time (Libre 3) or intermittent (Libre 2)
- MARD 9%
- **Does not pair with pumps (yet)**
- **\$\$ less expensive** if paying out of pocket or copay (e.g., 20% copay)
- Cash: ~\$140 coupon price per month



# Interfering Medications

Dexcom			Libre		
Medication	Generation Affected	CGM Error	Medication	Generation Affected	CGM Error
Acetaminophen (Higher than max doses)	G6	Falsely elevate sensor glucose	<b>Ascorbic Acid (Vitamin C)</b>	Libre 2	Falsely elevate sensor glucose
<b>Hydroxyurea</b>	G6	Falsely elevate sensor glucose	Salicylates (Aspirin)	Libre 14-day	Falsely lower sensor glucose

<https://www.dexcom.com/en-us/interference>


<https://www.freestyle.abbott/us-en/safety-information.html>

<https://diatribe.org/what-you-shouldnt-take-when-wearing-continuous%C2%A0glucose-monitor>

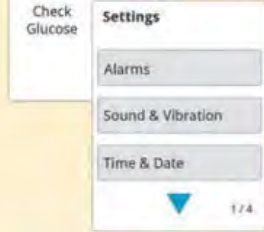
# CGM Alarms

- All CGMs except the Freestyle Libre 14-day have optional alarms for hypo- and hyperglycemia
- Alarm fatigue is a well-recognized phenomenon
- Clinicians should work with patients to personalize alarm thresholds

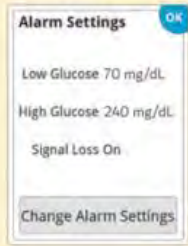
### Selecting Alarms



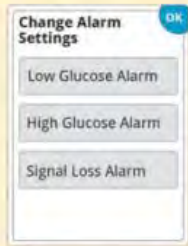
1. From the Home Screen, touch the Settings symbol.



2. Touch Alarms.

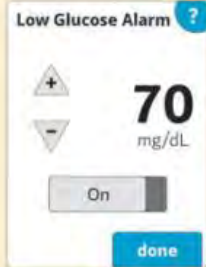


3. Touch Change Alarm Settings.




4. Select the Alarm to be turned "Off".  
*The default settings for all alarms is "On".*

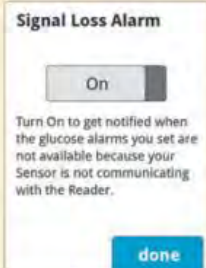
### How to set ...



The alarm level is initially set to 70 mg/dL. Press the arrows to change this value between 60 mg/dL and 100 mg/dL. Touch **done** to save.



The alarm level is initially set to 240 mg/dL. Press the arrows to change this value between 120 mg/dL and 400 mg/dL. Touch **done** to save.



The alarm level is on by default. Touch the slide to turn the alarm "Off". Touch **done** to save.

Miller E and Midyett LK, *DTT*, 2021.

Shivers JP, *J Diabetes Sci Technol*, 2013.

# CGM Devices: Setting Expectations

## CGM devices CAN:

- Measure interstitial glucose in near real time
- Alarm for low and high blood sugars
- Demonstrate glucose trends over time

## CGM devices CANNOT:

- Give insulin (that's a pump!)
- Tell a patient what to do with a high or low blood sugar
  - We need to equip patients to respond to the readings

# Objectives

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# CGM Data: Patient Perspective





# CGM Arrow System

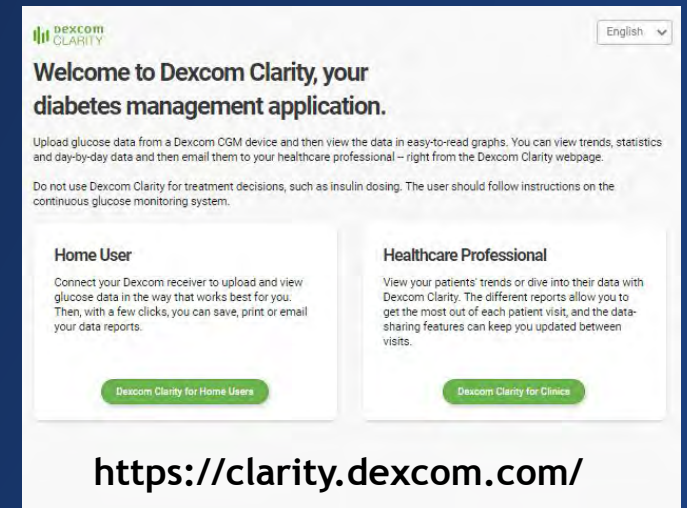


- CGM devices measure interstitial glucose, which “lags” behind capillary (blood) glucose.
- Arrow systems help user to determine where blood glucose is headed.

→	<b>Constant:</b> Your glucose is steady (not increasing/decreasing more than 1 mg/dL each minute)
↗	<b>Slowly rising:</b> Your glucose is rising 1-2 mg/dL each minute
↑	<b>Rising:</b> Your glucose is rising 2-3 mg/dL each minute
↑↑	<b>Rapidly rising:</b> Your glucose is rising more than 3 mg/dL each minute
↘	<b>Slowly falling:</b> Your glucose is falling 1- 2 mg/dL each minute
↓	<b>Falling:</b> Your glucose is falling 2-3 mg/dL each minute
↓↓	<b>Rapidly falling:</b> Your glucose is falling more than 3 mg/dL each minute
no arrow	<b>No Rate of Change Information:</b> The Receiver cannot always calculate how fast your glucose is rising or falling

# CGM Data: Clinician Perspective

- Patients can always access their own data and send this to you via a “Portal” type system as a PDF file
- Otherwise, each brand of CGM has their own downloading software
  - Freestyle Libre: LibreView
  - Dexcom: Dexcom Clarity
- Easiest to have each clinic have a “Practice” account



**dexcom**  
CLARITY

Welcome to Dexcom Clarity, your diabetes management application.

Upload glucose data from a Dexcom CGM device and then view the data in easy-to-read graphs. You can view trends, statistics and day-by-day data and then email them to your healthcare professional – right from the Dexcom Clarity webpage.

Do not use Dexcom Clarity for treatment decisions, such as insulin dosing. The user should follow instructions on the continuous glucose monitoring system.

**Home User**  
Connect your Dexcom receiver to upload and view glucose data in the way that works best for you. Then, with a few clicks, you can save, print or email your data reports.

**Healthcare Professional**  
View your patients' trends or dive into their data with Dexcom Clarity. The different reports allow you to get the most out of each patient visit, and the data-sharing features can keep you updated between visits.

[Dexcom Clarity for Home Users](#)

[Dexcom Clarity for Clinics](#)

<https://clarity.dexcom.com/>


# How to Pull a Dexcom Clarity Report

## If patients are using their phone as their receiver:

- Patient downloads the Dexcom Clarity app; register and login
- Patient must authorize sharing and generate a 12-digit “Sharecode” □ share with clinic
- Clinician uses “Sharecode” to in Dexcom Clarity webpage (no need for separate Dexcom Clarity account)

## If patients are using a separate reader as a receiver:

- Create Dexcom Clarity “Practice” account
- Send invitation through Practice account to link patient data
- Patient must upload receiver at home to view most recent data



The screenshot shows the Dexcom Clarity website interface. At the top left is the Dexcom CLARITY logo, and at the top right is a language dropdown menu set to "English". The main heading reads "Welcome to Dexcom Clarity, your diabetes management application." Below this, there is a paragraph explaining that users can upload glucose data from a Dexcom CGM device and view it in easy-to-read graphs, with the ability to email reports to healthcare professionals. A disclaimer states not to use the app for treatment decisions. Two main options are presented: "Home User" and "Healthcare Professional". The "Home User" option describes connecting a Dexcom receiver to upload and view data, with buttons for "Dexcom Clarity for Home Users". The "Healthcare Professional" option describes viewing patient trends and data with reports, with a button for "Dexcom Clarity for Clinics". At the bottom center, the URL <https://clarity.dexcom.com/> is displayed.

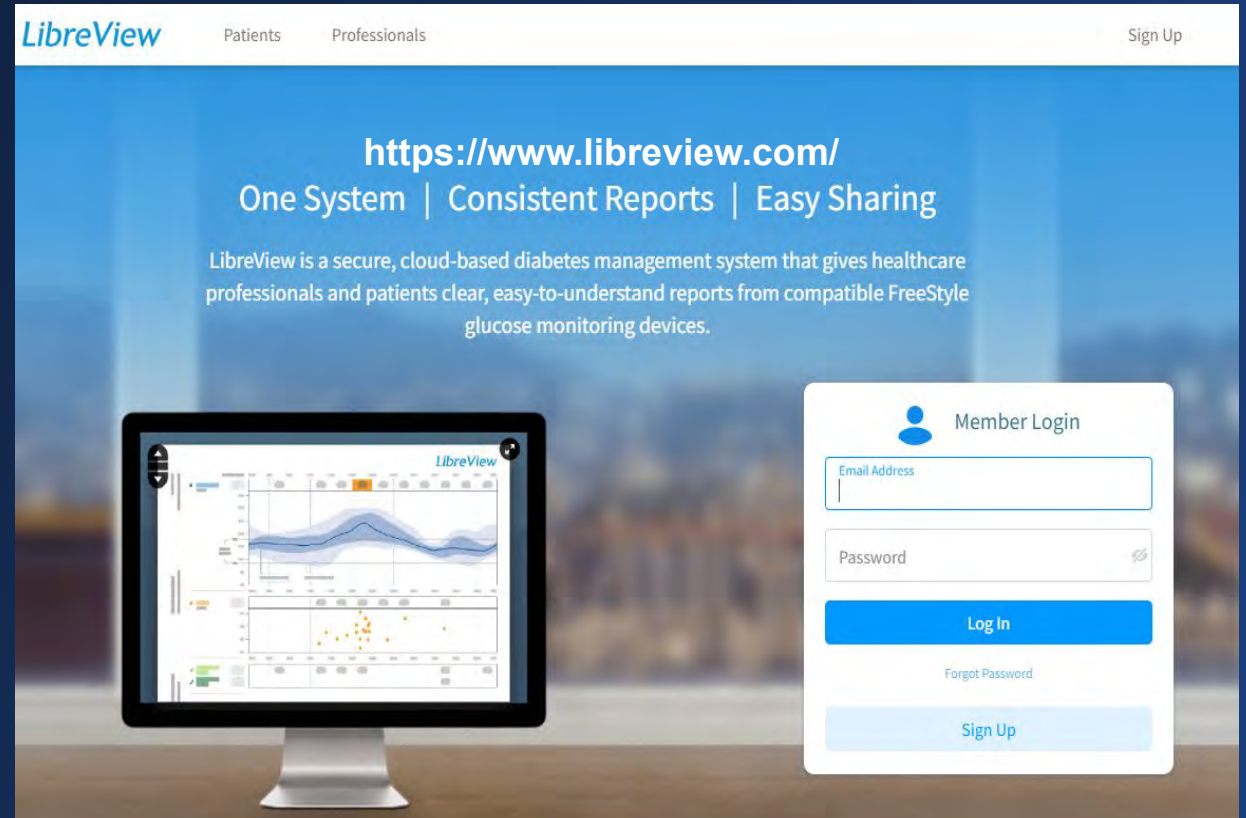


# How to Pull a LibreView Report

- Create “Practice” account
- Invite patient using Practice account: 2 options
  - Send invitation through Practice account
  - OR
  - Provide Practice “code”
- Login to “Practice” account
- Type patient’s name in search bar and view patient data

## If a patient uses:

- Phone: data syncs automatically
- Reader: patient must upload at home to view most recent data



# Glucose Management Indicator (GMI)

- Estimate of A1c based on CGM-derived mean glucose
- Goal <7-8% based on comorbidities
- Need at least 10-14 days of CGM data
- **Benefits:**
  - Potentially more accurate in patients with conditions that affect red blood cell turnover
- **Concerns:**
  - Subject to same problem as A1c in terms of glucose variability
  - Validated mostly in type 1 diabetes populations, may be less accurate in T2DM

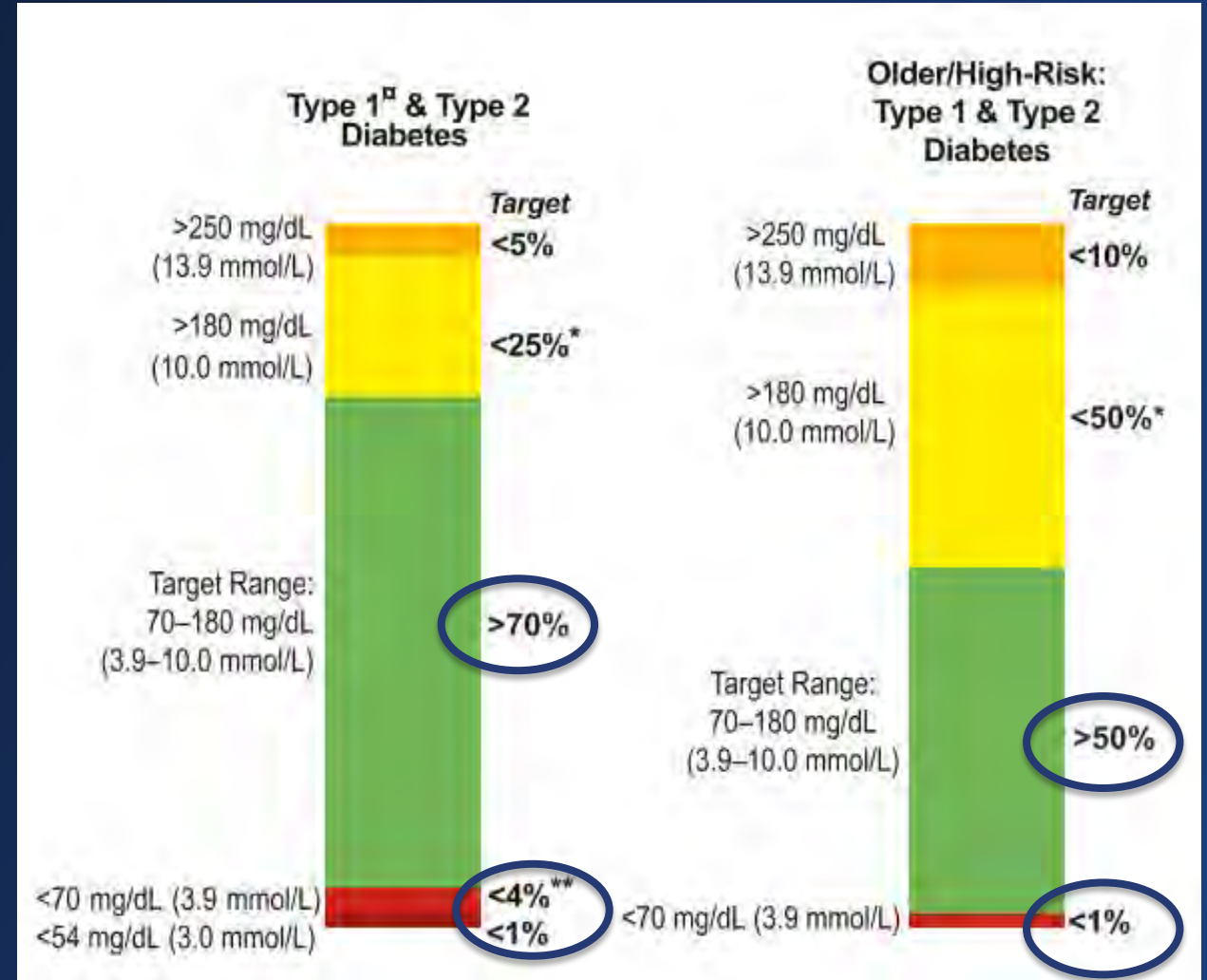
**Table 1—GMI calculated for various CGM-derived mean glucose concentrations**

CGM-derived mean glucose (mg/dL)	GMI (%)*
100	5.7
125	6.3
150	6.9
175	7.5
200	8.1
225	8.7
250	9.3
275	9.9
300	10.5
350	11.7

Bergenstal et al. *Diabetes Care*. 2018.  
Fang et al. *Clin Chem*. 2023.

# Time in Range (TIR)

- % of readings that fall into a certain glucose range
- Time in range definitions (non-pregnant populations):
  - Time above range: >180 mg/dL
  - Time in target range: 70-180 mg/dL
  - Time below range: <70 mg/dL
- Time in range/A1c correlations:
  - TIR of 70% is ~A1c 7%
  - TIR of 50% is ~A1c 8%
  - TIR increase of 10% corresponds to ~A1c decrease of 0.6%

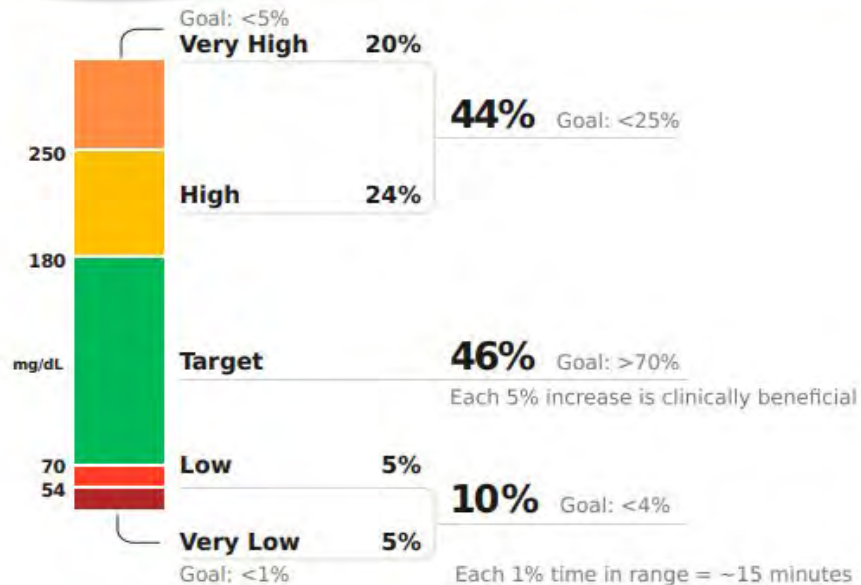


# Ambulatory Glucose Profile (AGP): Summary

## AGP Report: Continuous Glucose Monitoring

### Time in Ranges

Goals for Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes



Test Patient DOB: Jan 1, 1970

14 Days: August 8-August 21, 2021

Time CGM Active: 100%

### Glucose Metrics

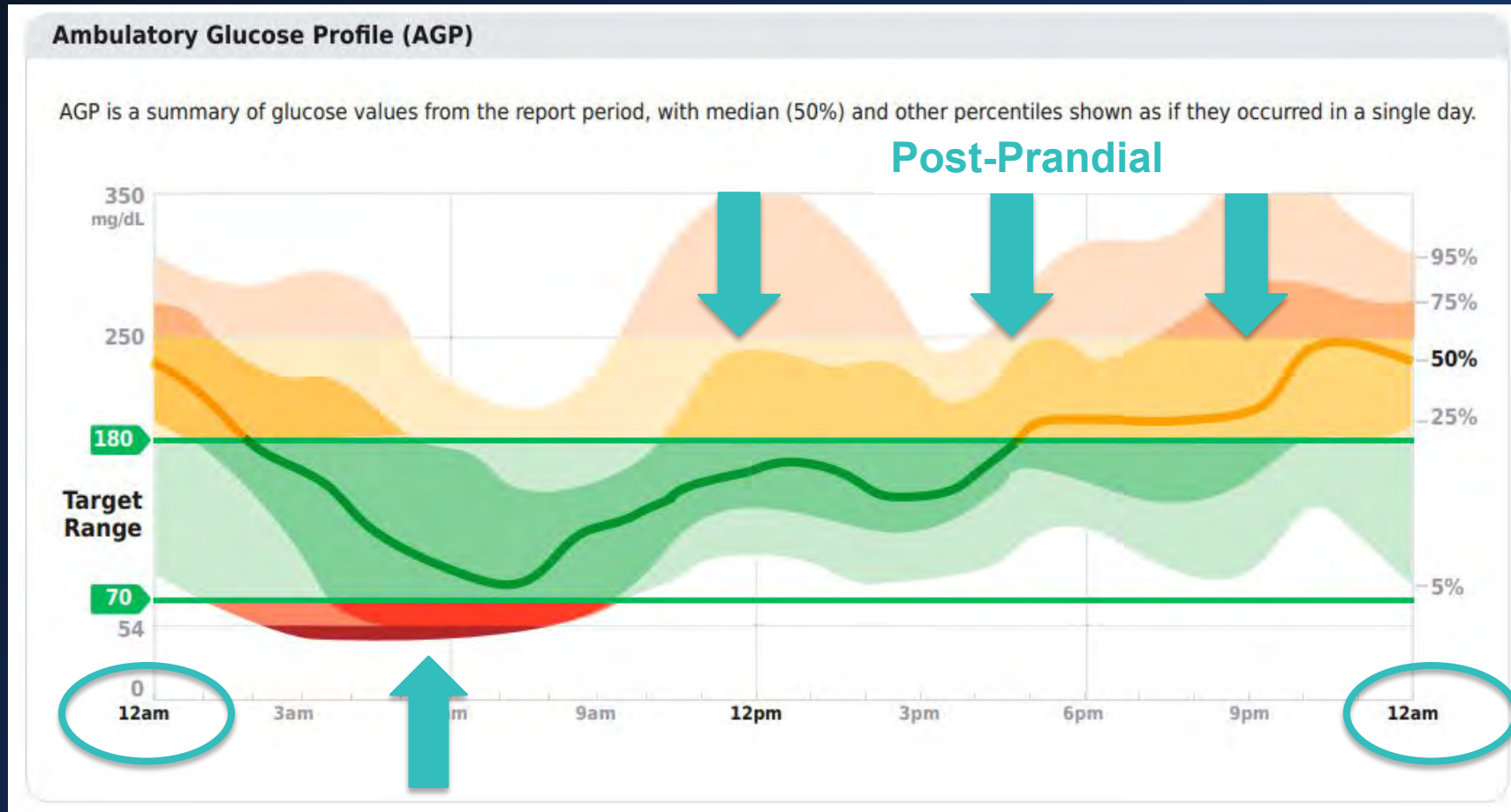
Average Glucose ..... **175 mg/dL**  
Goal: <154 mg/dL

Glucose Management Indicator (GMI) ..... **7.5%**  
Goal: <7%

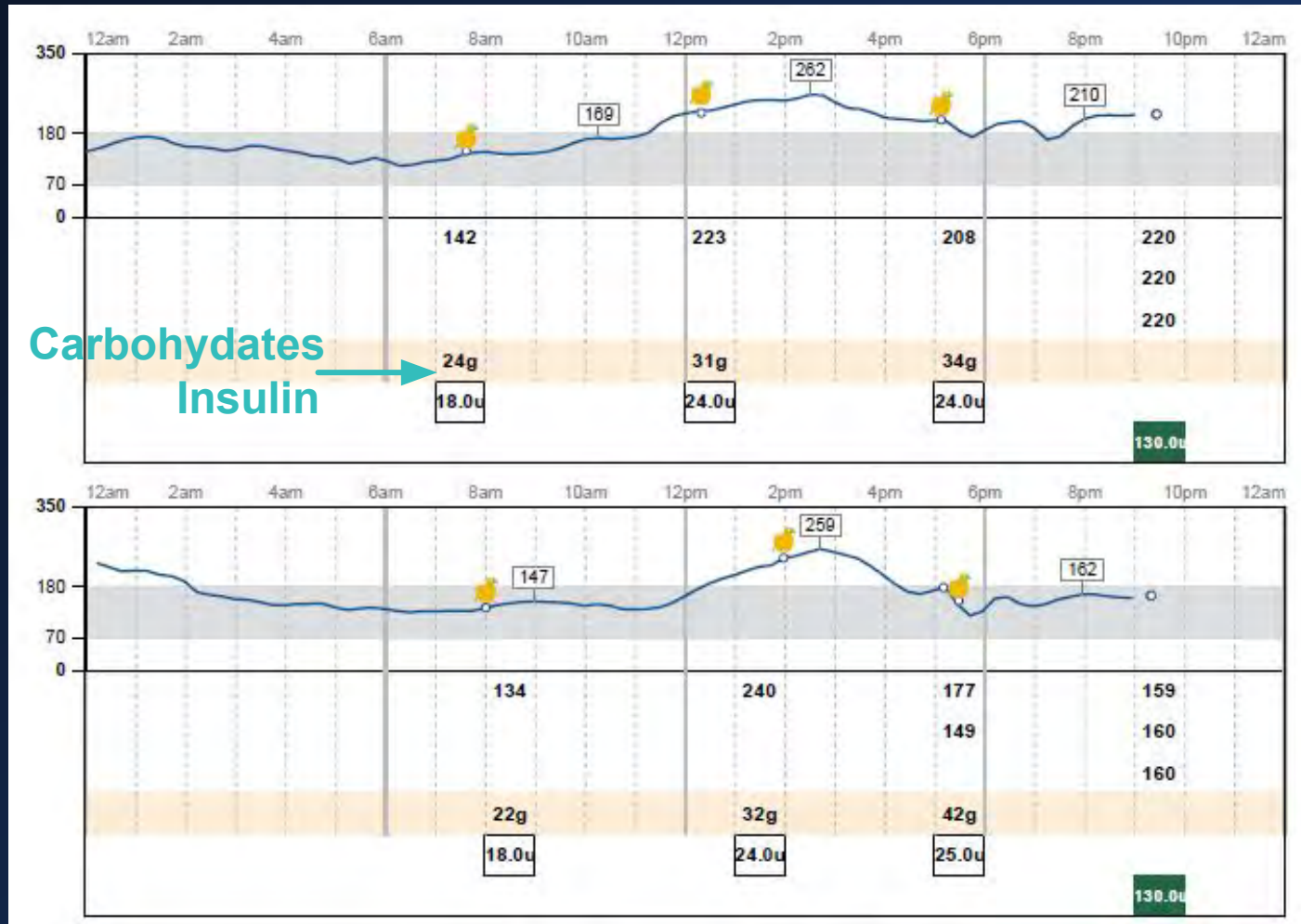
Glucose Variability ..... **45.5%**  
Defined as percent coefficient of variation  
Goal: ≤36%



# Ambulatory Glucose Profile (AGP): Trendline



# CGM Daily Logs



# Billing for CGM Interpretation

95251	<b>CGM Interpretation</b> Ambulatory CGM of interstitial tissue fluid via a subcutaneous sensor for a minimum of 72 hours; analysis, interpretation, and report	Physician (MD, DO), NP, PA, or clinical nurse specialist	Maximum of once per month	Not required to have a face-to-face visit
-------	---	--	---------------------------	---

- Billing code 95251 = 0.7 RVUs
- Must report on a minimum of 72 hours of CGM data
- Can only be billed once per month
- Must be performed by an MD, DO, PA or NP
- Does not require a face-to-face visit (i.e. can be done if patient requests data review via a patient portal)
- Most insurances cover this but patient may get stuck paying out of pocket if they have a high deductible plan and have not yet met deductible

# Objectives

- Understand the benefits and limitations of glucose monitoring in type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM)
- Briefly discuss the different types of continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) devices
- Understand CGM data output
- **Briefly discuss CGM coverage in Michigan**
- Work through a few CGM case studies



# CGM Coverage in Michigan

- General coverage criteria (document in your notes to ensure coverage):
  - **Diagnosis**
  - **Insulin use**
  - **Fingerstick requirements**
- Durable medical equipment (DME) versus pharmacy benefit
- **Medicaid:** All type 1 diabetes DME (Meridian - Healthy Living) and pharmacy benefit; insulin-using type 2 diabetes with prior authorization
- **Medicare:** Insulin-users or has history of severe hypoglycemia, DME only
- **Commercial:** Varies from plan to plan, try pharmacy first as DME often has # of insulin injection requirements and fingerstick requirement
  - Coverage guide:  
<https://www.mct2d.org/resource-library/medications-and-cgm-coverage-by-payer-in-michigan-quick-reference-guide>

# How to Prescribe CGM

- **Pharmacy:** Send in like a regular prescription
  - Sensors +/- transmitter (Dexcom G6)
  - Reader device if not using smart phone or smart phone not compatible
- **Durable Medical Equipment**
  - Patient must contact insurance preferred DME company
  - DME company faxes CGM order request
  - Complete order form along with most recent chart note addressing diabetes
  - Need the 3 elements:
    - ✓ Diagnosis
    - ✓ Number of insulin injections
    - ✓ Frequency of fingerstick blood glucose checks

# CGM Coverage DotPhrase

Patient has a diagnosis of type 2 diabetes with a current medication regimen that includes

- Insulin {1-4} injection(s) per day
- 3 or more oral diabetes medications
- \*\*\*

Patient

- has no issues with hypoglycemia.
- has recurrent severe hypoglycemia (below 54 mg/dl)
- had at least one hypoglycemic event characterized by altered mental and/or physical state requiring third party assistance, details
- \*\*\*

Patient's medication regimen requires frequent review for possible adjustment based on self-testing results.

We plan for visits at least every 6 months to monitor compliance with recommended diabetes treatment plan.

It is my recommendation that the patient would benefit from a continuous glucose monitor based on

- Frequent adjustments by patient to the insulin regimen
- Uncontrolled blood glucose as evidenced by fluctuating numbers
- Suspected postprandial hyperglycemia
- Nocturnal hypoglycemia
- Hypoglycemia unawareness
- Recent hospital/emergency room visit for seizures/hypoglycemic event
- Coexistent morbidity that poses unusual challenge with concomitant fluctuating blood glucose levels
- \*\*\*

The following are pertinent to this patient:

- Has demonstrated an understanding of how the technology works (or plans to if new start).
- Has shown motivation to use the device correctly and consistently.
- Is adherent to use of the Continuous Glucose Monitor and Diabetes treatment plan (or is expected to if new start).
- Can use the device to recognize alerts and alarms (or plans to if new start).
- It has been recommended that @he@ consider attending education/training on continuous glucose monitoring use, or self-teaching, as appropriate.

Your Name

*Source: Pam Milan, Kim Miazek, Steve Fried*

# ePrescribing for DME



- Online platform to speed and simplify electronic prescribing of durable medical equipment.
- *May not be available for all payers.*
- MCT2D member practices report Parachute saves time when submitting prior authorization requests for CGMs
- We have no ties, financial or otherwise, to the maker of this product/tool.

# Objectives

- Understand the benefits and limitations of glucose monitoring in type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM)
- Briefly discuss the different types of continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) devices
- Understand CGM data output
- Briefly discuss CGM coverage in Michigan
- **Work through a few CGM case studies**



# Case 1

Ms. S is a 59 yo woman with a 25 year history of type 2 diabetes. She was previously on basal insulin but was able to stop insulin after going on a low-carb diet. She is on max tolerated oral/non-insulin therapy (metformin 1000 mg twice daily, glimepiride 8 mg daily, pioglitazone 15 mg daily, Jardiance 25 mg daily, and Trulicity 1.5 mg weekly) with A1c values in the ~7% range. She endorses more family stress recently and has had difficulty adhering to her low carb diet.

## AGP Report

LibreView

### GLUCOSE STATISTICS AND TARGETS

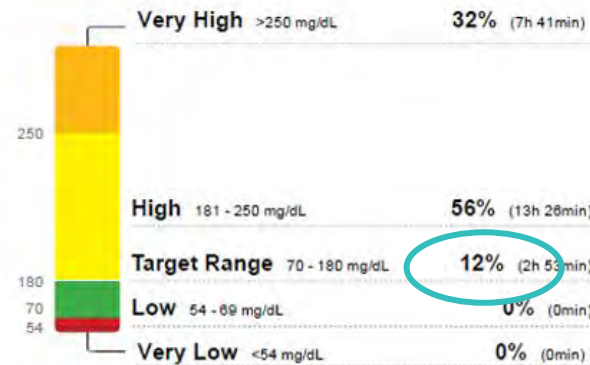
14 Days  
% Time CGM is Active 43%

Glucose Ranges	Targets % of Readings (Time/Day)
Target Range 70-180 mg/dL	Greater than 70% (18h 48min)
Below 70 mg/dL	Less than 4% (58min)
Below 54 mg/dL	Less than 1% (14min)
Above 180 mg/dL	Less than 25% (0h)
Above 250 mg/dL	Less than 5% (1h 12min)

Each 5% increase in time in range (70-180 mg/dL) is clinically beneficial.

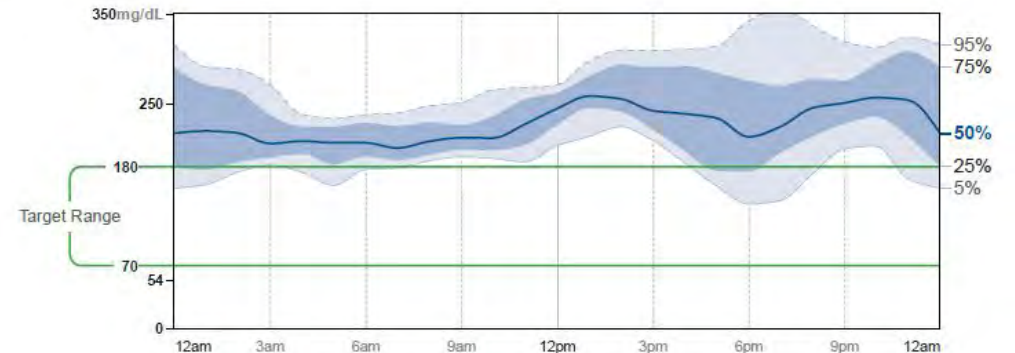
Average Glucose **231 mg/dL**  
Glucose Management Indicator (GMI) **8.8%**  
Glucose Variability 19.9%  
Defined as percent coefficient of variation (%CV)

### TIME IN RANGES



### AMBULATORY GLUCOSE PROFILE (AGP)

AGP is a summary of glucose values from the report period, with median (50%) and other percentiles shown as if occurring in a single day.



### Plan:

- Start Lantus 15 unit nightly
- Referral to Social Work

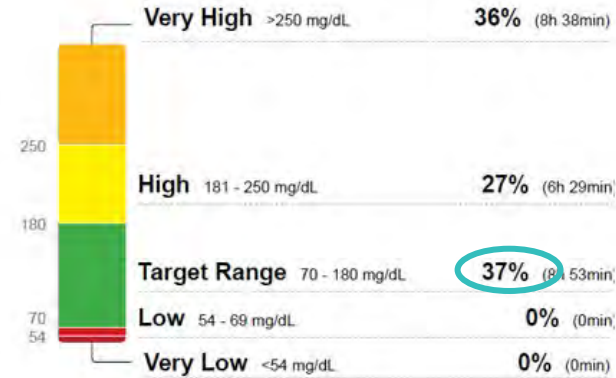
## Case 2

Ms. H is a 59 yo woman with a 20 year history of type 2 diabetes and obesity. Her A1c is typically in the 6-7% range on metformin 1000 mg twice daily and Ozempic (semaglutide) 1 mg weekly (max-tolerated doses). She messaged into the Portal reporting higher blood sugars on her CGM since starting on a 5-day course of prednisone for an upper respiratory infection.

### GLUCOSE STATISTICS AND TARGETS

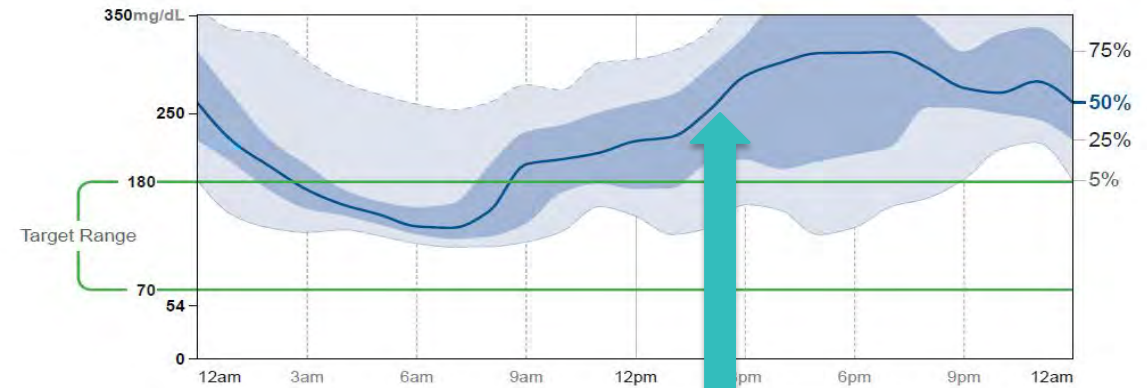
<b>% Time CGM is Active</b>	<b>14 Days</b> 81%
Ranges And Targets For Type 1 or Type 2 Diabetes	
<b>Glucose Ranges</b>	<b>Targets % of Readings (Time/Day)</b>
Target Range 70-180 mg/dL	Greater than 70% (16h 48min)
Below 70 mg/dL	Less than 4% (58min)
Below 54 mg/dL	Less than 1% (14min)
Above 180 mg/dL	Less than 25% (6h)
Above 250 mg/dL	Less than 5% (1h 12min)
Each 5% increase in time in range (70-180 mg/dL) is clinically beneficial.	
<b>Average Glucose</b>	<b>227 mg/dL</b>
<b>Glucose Management Indicator (GMI)</b>	<b>8.7%</b>
<b>Glucose Variability</b>	<b>38.1%</b>
Defined as percent coefficient of variation (%CV); target ≤36%	

### TIME IN RANGES



### AMBULATORY GLUCOSE PROFILE (AGP)

AGP is a summary of glucose values from the report period, with median (50%) and other percentiles shown as if occurring in a single day.



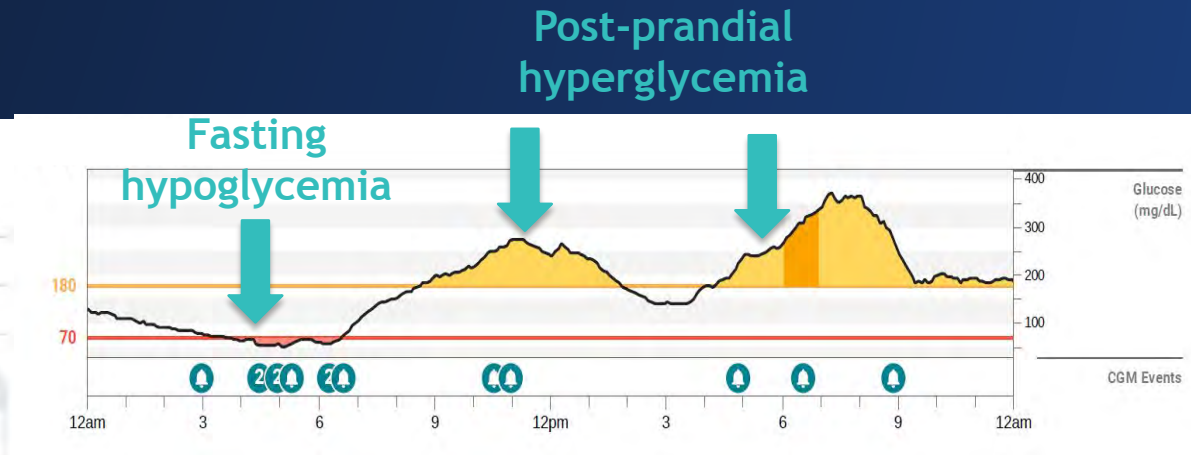
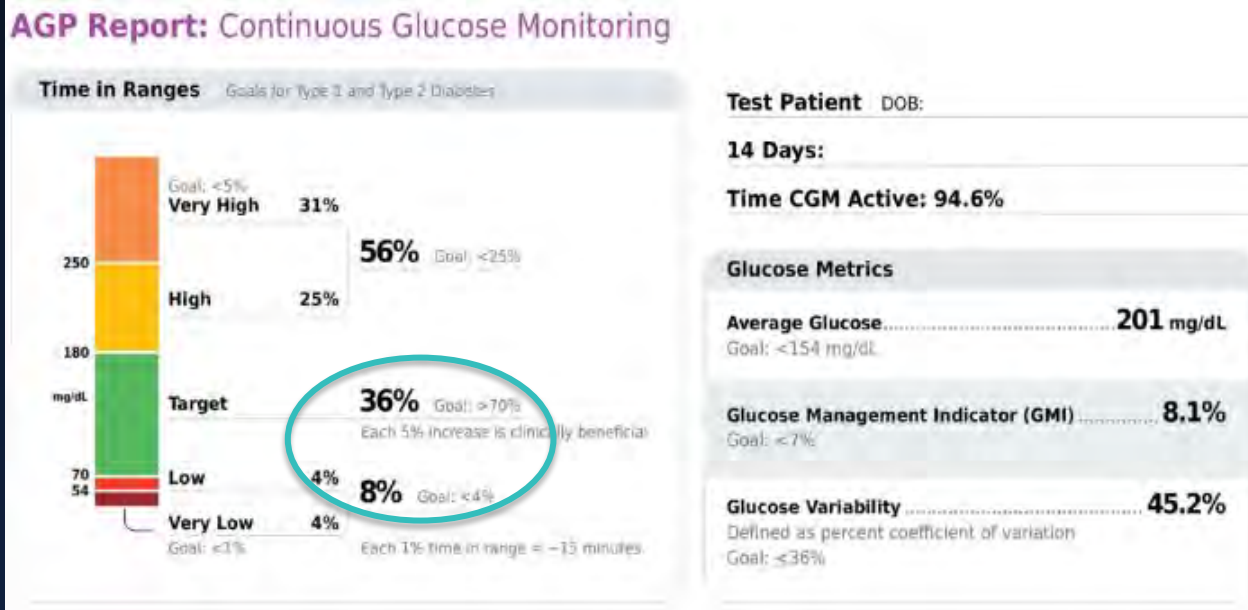
**Steroid-induced hyperglycemia**

### Plan:

- Continue metformin and Ozempic at max-tolerated dose
- Start glipizide 5 mg every morning while on prednisone to cover steroid-induced hyperglycemia

# Case 3

Mr. J is a 72 yo man with an 18 year history of type 2 diabetes, stage III CKD, and CAD s/p CABG. He is on Metformin 1000 mg BID, Ozempic 0.5 mg weekly, and Lantus 60 units nightly. He presents for a routine visit, denying any recent hypoglycemia.



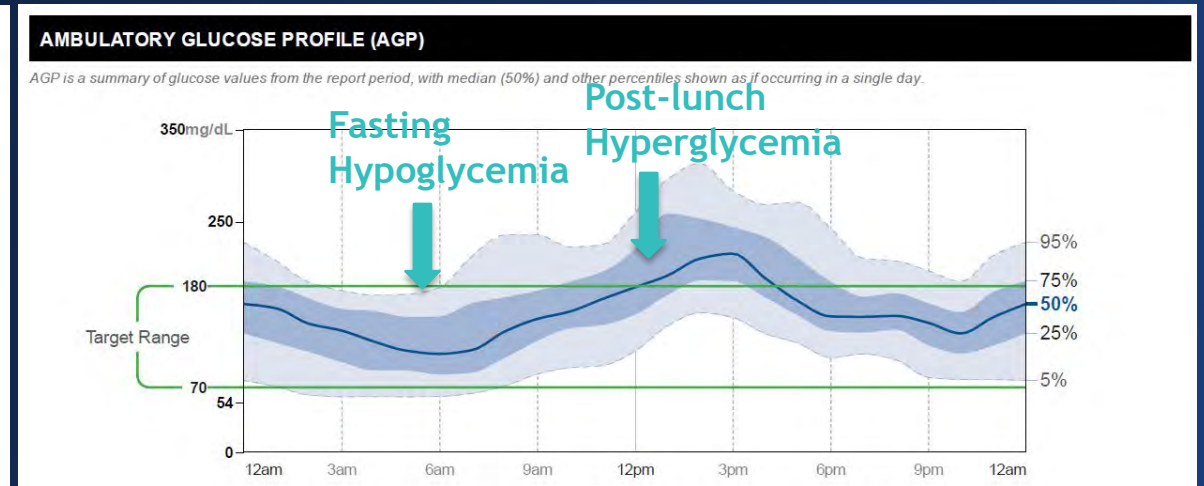
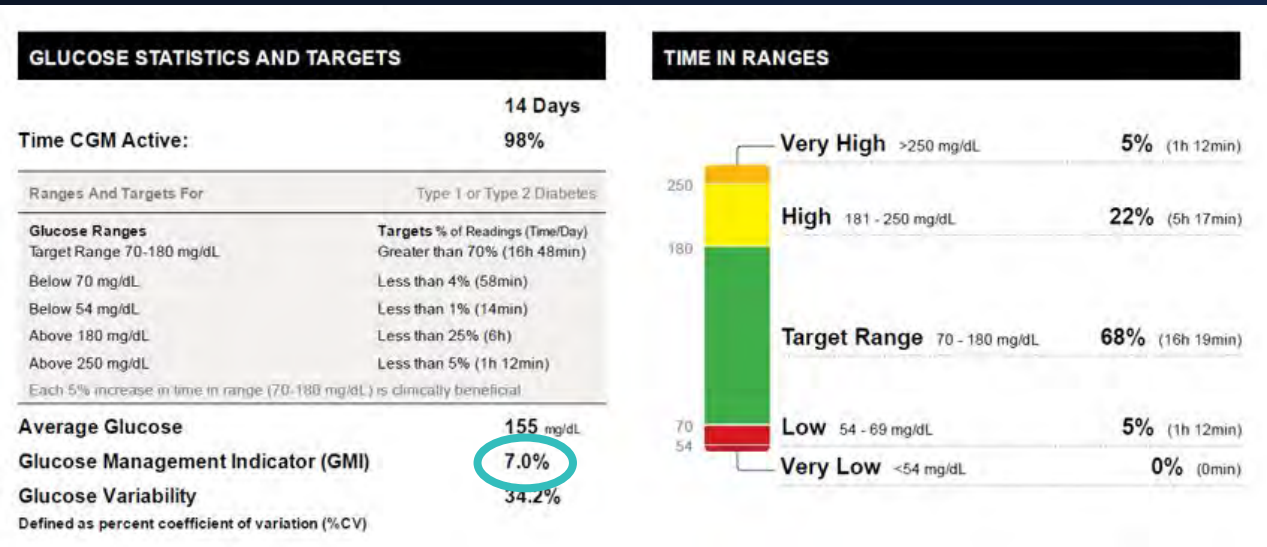
## Plan:

- Continue metformin
- Reduce Lantus (glargine) to 50 units (~20%)
- Titrate Ozempic (semaglutide) to max tolerated dose
- Add Jardiance (empagliflozin)
- Follow-up in 1 month to see if additional post-prandial coverage is needed



# Case 4

Mr. Z is a 64 yo man with a 25 year history of type 2 diabetes c/b microalbuminuria and pancreatitis presenting for follow-up. He is co-managed in Primary Care where he was advised to eat cheese to prevent overnight lows. He is wondering if there are alternative foods to eat as he is tired of “having to eat so much cheese.” His current regimen is: Metformin 1000 mg daily, Jardiance (empagliflozin) 25 mg daily, Lantus (glargine) 30 units nightly, and Novolog (aspart) 10 units with meals.

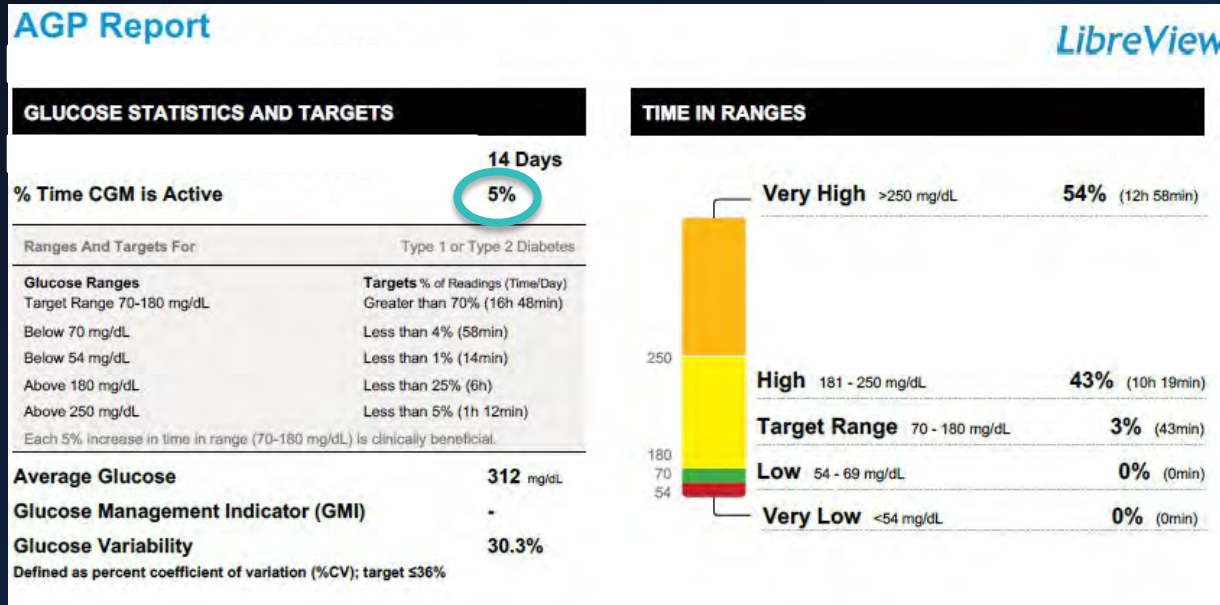


## Plan:

- Continue metformin and Jardiance (empagliflozin)
- Reduce Lantus (glargine) to 26 units (~10%)
- Dietary counseling to reduce carbs with lunch or increase Novolog (aspart) to 12 units with lunch

# Case 5

Ms. Y is a 56 yo woman with a 12 year history of type 2 diabetes c/b proliferative diabetic retinopathy, stage III CKD, obesity and depression. She is on U500 50 units twice daily and Ozempic 2 mg weekly. She reports difficulty with CGM sensors adhering to her skin.



## Plan:

- Suggestions to improve CGM sensor adhesion
- See back in 2 weeks for adjustments
- Ensure she has adequate mental health resources



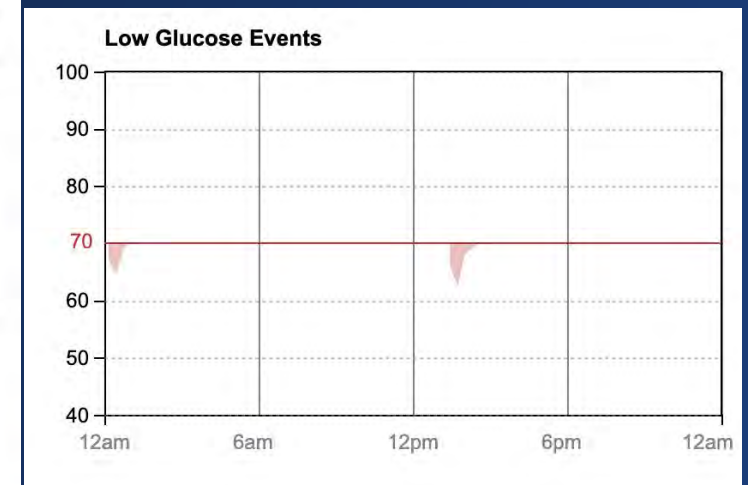
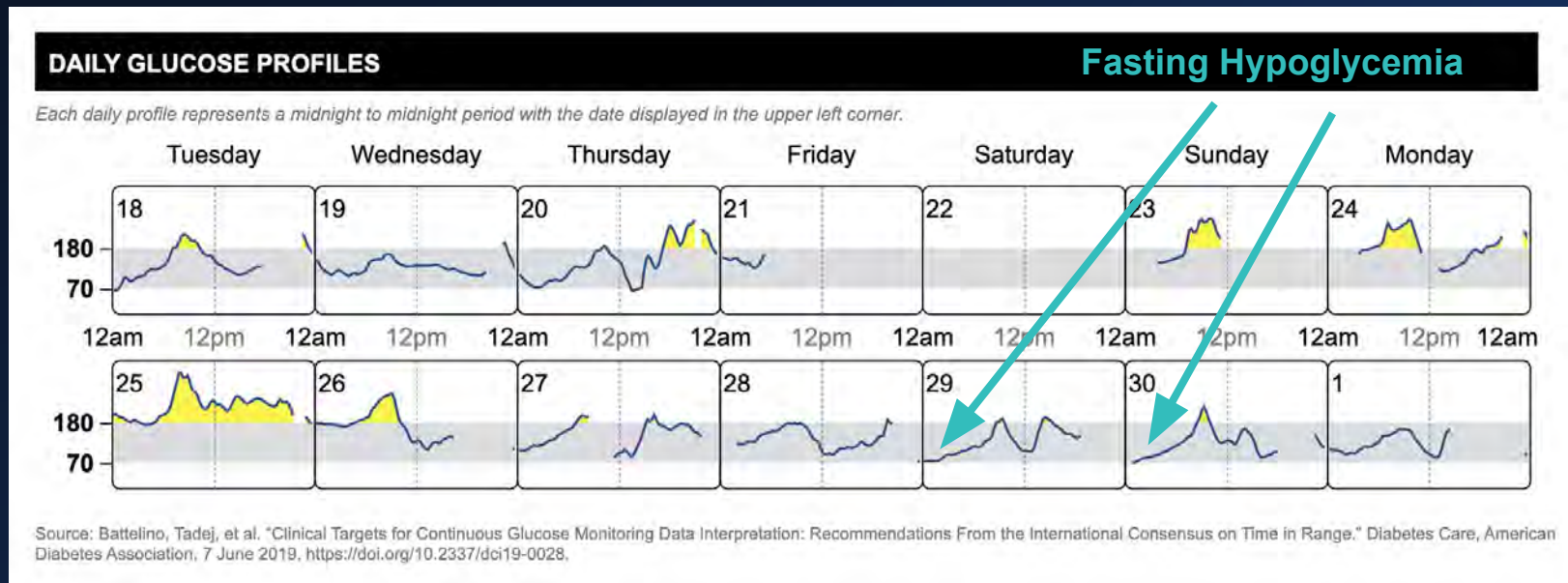
# Challenges with Adhesion and Skin Irritation

- Nearly 50% of patients experience challenges with wearable diabetes devices, including problems with adhesion and skin irritation.
- Frequent site rotation and use of adhesive removal wipes (Uni-Solve, Detachol) as a first step
- **Troubleshooting adhesion challenges:**
  - Prepping skin prior to sensor placement:
    - Liquid adhesives (Mastisol)
    - Adhesive wipes (IV Prep, Skin Tac)
  - Patches, dressings, tapes:
    - Transparent film barriers (Tegaderm, Flexigrid, Hypafix)
    - External wraps (Coban)
    - Tapes: (Hy-Tape, Hypafix)
  - Protective sleeves: Often available on Amazon, Etsy
- **Medications to lessen skin irritation:**
  - Topical antihistamine sprays (Benadryl)
  - Nasal steroid solutions (Flonase)
- **Last ditch effort:** Switch type of CGM device



## Case 6

Ms. C is a 72 yo woman with a 20 year history of type 2 diabetes with A1c 8.9% and obesity BMI 46 on 30 units Glargine, 10 units Novolog qAC, Semaglutide 2.0 mg SQ weekly, and metformin 1000 mg BID. She returns to you two days after bariatric surgery and has stopped her Ozempic 2 weeks prior to surgery.

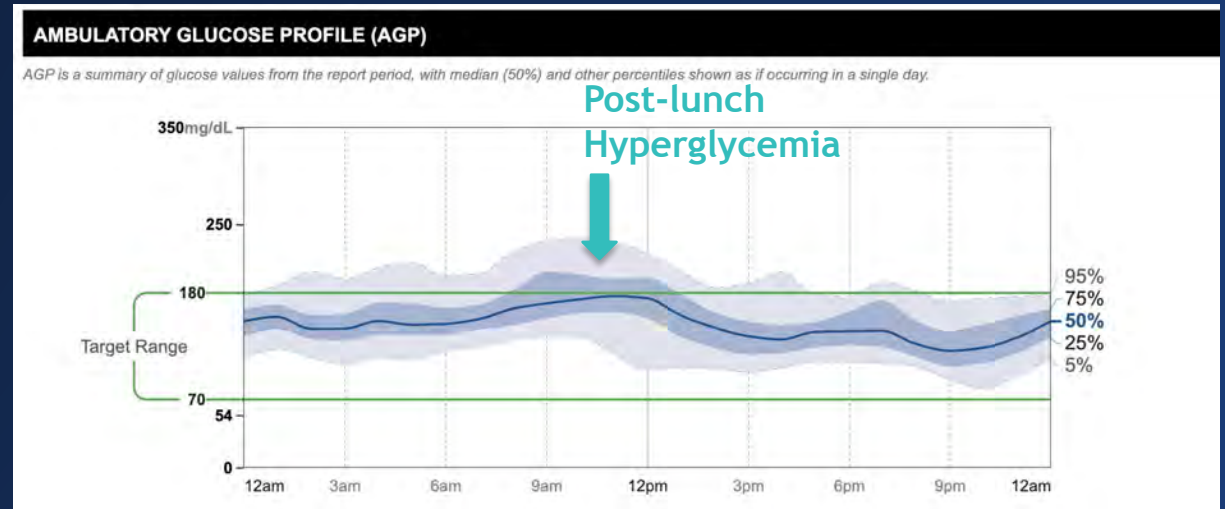


### Plan:

- Continue off Ozempic.
- Stopped mealtime insulin and cut Lantus to 26 units.
- Instructed to call if hypoglycemia and message me weekly to adjust Lantus.

# Case 7

Ms. P is a 60 yo woman with a 15 year history of type 2 diabetes with A1c 7.8% and obesity BMI 35 on Metformin 1000 mg BID and Semaglutide 2.0 mg SQ weekly. She lost an initial ~6 lb with addition of semaglutide 2 years ago.



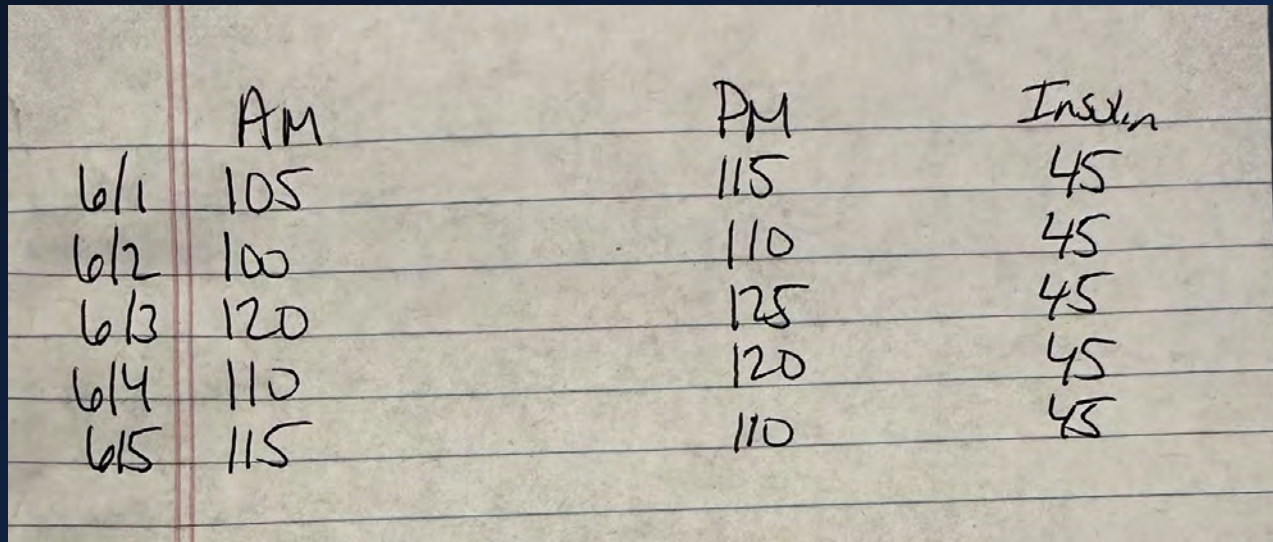
## Plan:

- Patient lost only 3% body weight with Semaglutide 2.0.
- Agrees to switch to Tirzepatide.
- Plans to continue CGM and dietary adjustments to guide titration.



## Case 8

Mr. H is a 51 yo man with a 13 year history of type 2 diabetes with A1c of 9.2% and obesity BMI 31 on metformin 1000 mg BID, Jardiance 25 mg daily, Ozempic 2 mg weekly, and Lantus 45 units nightly. He didn't bring a glucometer to download but brought a handwritten logbook from blood sugars over the past few days. He saw a commercial about the Libre 3 CGM and feels like a CGM would help him to make better dietary choices. He tried calling his insurance to ask about CGM coverage and had to hang up after waiting for an hour on hold. He has HAP insurance and wants to know if can get a CGM prescription today.



	AM	PM	Insulin
6/1	105	115	45
6/2	100	110	45
6/3	120	125	45
6/4	110	120	45
6/5	115	110	45

### Plan:

- Consult the Michigan Collaborative for Type 2 Diabetes (MCT2D) CGM coverage guide
- Prescribe CGM through preferred pharmacy
- Direct to MCT2D patient resources for CGM training materials
- Follow-up in 4 weeks to download and review blood sugars



RESOURCES

MEMBERS

EVENTS

PATIENTS

SEARCH

## THE MICHIGAN COLLABORATIVE FOR TYPE 2 DIABETES

Shifting the paradigm of type 2 diabetes care through dissemination of best practices and partnering to remove barriers to care.



Increasing use of continuous glucose monitoring devices



Aligning medication prescribing with guideline directed care



Promoting low carbohydrate eating patterns

## RESOURCE LIBRARY

SEARCH

MY BOOKMARKS



CGM



MEDICATION



LOW CARB



FOR PROVIDERS



FOR PATIENTS

# MCT2D Tools: Coverage Guide

## Medications and CGM Coverage Guide

DOWNLOAD RESOURCE

ADD BOOKMARK

Updated: 11/17/23

Quickly reference insurance plan coverage in this all-in-one guide for your patients with type 2 diabetes.

Medications and devices referenced include:

### SGLT-2 Inhibitors

Jardiance, Farxiga, Invokana, Steglatro

### GLP1-Receptor Agonists / GIPs

Trulicity, Ozempic, Victoza, Rybelsus, Bydureon BCise, Mounjaro

### Anti-Obesity Medications

Saxenda, Wegovy, phentermine, Lomaira, Qsymia, Contrave

### Continuous glucose monitors (CGMs)

Device brands preferred by each pavor

	TRULICITY Dulaglutide Eli Lilly, Inc.	OZEMPIC Semaglutide Novartis	RYBELSUS Semaglutide Novartis	VICTOZA Liraglutide Novartis	MOUNJARO Tirzepatide Eli Lilly, Inc.	BYDUREON BCISE Ezetimibe Novartis
<b>AETNA</b> Individual/Group	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	No Info	Not Covered
<b>BCBSM</b> Individual/Group	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	Not Covered
<b>EXPRESS SCRIPTS</b> Preferred/Outpatient	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	Not Covered ST	Preferred PA	Preferred PA
<b>HAP</b> Individual/Group	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	Not Covered
<b>PRIORITY</b> Individual/Group	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	Not Covered ST	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	Not Covered ST
<b>PRIORITY (OPTIMIZED)</b> Individual/Group	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	Not Covered ST	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	Specialty PA
<b>UNITED</b> Individual/Group	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	Preferred PA	Preferred PA

What people are saying about this resource:

"I think you guys are doing a great job with the resources. The offices are using them all the time. Especially the coverage guide. It's like our bible."



# MCT2D Tools: Coverage Guide

mct2d.org/resource-library

## CONTINUOUS GLUCOSE MONITORS (CGM) COVERAGE

COVERAGE		CRITERIA - DOCUMENT IN CHART NOTE				
PHARMACY	MEDICAL/DME	Needs T2D Diagnosis	Insulin	Hypoglycemic events	Seen for diabetes management in past 6 months	Additional criteria and notes
<b>Aetna</b>	<p><b>NONE</b></p> <p>Preferred Brand(s) <b>Dexcom</b></p> <p>Policy Link: <a href="https://michmed.org/3xAqb">https://michmed.org/3xAqb</a></p>	<b>REQUIRED For DME</b>	<p><b>REQUIRED For DME</b></p> <p>Needs 3+ daily insulin injections or pump</p>	<p><b>REQUIRED For DME</b></p> <p>Including hypoglycemic unawareness <b>OR "not meeting glycemic targets"</b></p>	<p><b>Not Required For DME</b></p> <p>But may be required for continued use (see right)</p>	<p><b>For continued use, must document EITHER</b></p> <p>a.) Experiencing improved glycemic control or decreased hypoglycemia episodes while using a CGM</p> <p>b.) Are being assessed every six months by the prescriber for adherence to their CGM regimen and diabetes treatment plan.</p>
<b>BCBSM</b> <i>Consult Individual Plans</i>	<p>Preferred Brand(s) <b>Dexcom</b> receiver &amp; transmitter at \$0 cost share <b>Abbott</b></p> <p>Have a pharmacy carveout? Refer to your carve out plan company's coverage criteria.</p>	<b>REQUIRED For DME &amp; PHARMACY</b>	<p><b>REQUIRED For DME ONLY</b></p> <p>Needs 3+ daily insulin injections or pump AND "not meeting glycemic targets"</p>	<p><b>REQUIRED For DME only</b></p> <p>Have recurrent, unexplained, severe hypoglycemia (generally blood glucose levels &lt;50 mg/dL) OR "impaired awareness of hypoglycemia that puts the patient or others at risk"</p>	<p><b>REQUIRED For DME</b></p> <p>In-person or virtual</p>	<p><b>For pregnant patients:</b></p> <p>Have poorly controlled insulin requiring diabetes, includes unexplained hypoglycemic episodes, hypoglycemic unawareness, suspected postprandial hyperglycemia, and recurrent diabetic ketoacidosis.</p> <p><b>DME criteria only</b></p>
<b>HAP</b> <i>Commercial and Medicare Advantage plans</i>	<p>Preferred Brand(s) <b>Dexcom</b> <b>Abbott</b> <b>Freestyle Libre</b></p> <p>\$0 copay if through Pharmacy Advantage or patient's pharmacy</p>	<b>REQUIRED For Pharm</b>	<p><b>REQUIRED For Pharm</b></p> <p>Must be treated with insulin OR Treated with 3+ non-insulin products AND has uncontrolled HgBA1c</p>	<b>Not Required</b>	<b>Not Required</b>	<p><b>Use PREFERRED VENDOR</b></p> <p>Pharmacy Advantage (800) 456-2112, M-F, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. <a href="https://www.pharmacyadvantagerx.com/index.cfm">https://www.pharmacyadvantagerx.com/index.cfm</a></p>

# MCT2D Tools: Coverage Guide

mct2d.org/resource-library

## CONTINUOUS GLUCOSE MONITORS (CGM) COVERAGE

COVERAGE		CRITERIA - DOCUMENT IN CHART NOTE				
PHARMACY	MEDICAL/DME	Needs T2D Diagnosis	Insulin	Hypoglycemic events	Seen for diabetes management in past 6 months	Additional criteria and notes
Medicare & Medicare Advantage	<p><b>NONE</b></p> <p>Preferred Brand(s) <b>Abbott Dexcom</b></p> <p>Policy Link: <a href="http://michmed.org/dJBz3">michmed.org/dJBz3</a></p> <p><b>Updated March 3, 2023. Effective April 16, 2023.</b></p>	<b>REQUIRED For DME</b>	<p><b>REQUIRED For DME</b></p> <p>Must be EITHER: 1.) "Insulin treated" OR 2.) Have a "history of problematic hypoglycemia" (see right)</p>	<p>If not insulin treated: EITHER 1.) AT LEAST TWO Level 2 hypoglycemic events (glucose &lt;54mg/dL), with at least two previous medadjustments and/or modifications to the treatment plan prior to the most recent Level 2 event OR 2.) AT LEAST ONE Level 3 hypoglycemic event &lt;54mg/dL associated with altered mental and/or physical state), with documentation in EMR that the patient required 3rd party assistance for treatment.</p>	<p><b>REQUIRED For DME</b></p> <p>In-person or Medicare approved virtual visit</p>	<p>Clinician must also document: 1.) The beneficiary (or the beneficiary's caregiver) has received appropriate training in the use of the device as evidenced by a prescription. 2.) The CGM is being prescribed in accordance with FDA indications for use.</p> <p>Device must have standalone reader (not just smartphone app) to qualify for DME</p> <p>MCT2D members recommend Parachute Health. ePrescribing platform.</p>
Medicaid	<p><b>NONE</b></p> <p>Preferred Brand(s) <b>Abbott, Dexcom</b></p> <p>Proposed medical policy: <a href="http://michmed.org/rB4Vk">michmed.org/rB4Vk</a></p> <p><b>Prior Authorization Required</b></p>	<b>REQUIRED For DME</b>	<p><b>REQUIRED For DME</b></p> <p>Prescribed and using insulin or pump</p> <p>AND</p> <p>2X daily readings</p> <p><b>For DME</b></p>	<p><b>Not Required</b></p>	<p><b>REQUIRED For DME</b></p> <p>Must be under the care of an endocrinologist, a physician, or a non-physician practitioner (nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or clinical nurse specialist) who is managing their type 2 diabetes.</p>	<p>Must also: 1.) Complete DSME training within 1 year of CGM order 2.) Be educated on the use of the device and willing and able to use CGMs</p> <p>Documentation must be less than 90 days old.</p> <p>Initial order must be written for 6 months.</p>



# MCT2D Tools: Other Resources

mct2d.org/resource-library

## CONTINUOUS GLUCOSE MONITOR Use Case Guide for Type 2 Diabetes



If a patient has requested a Continuous Glucose Monitor (CGM) or you are suggesting a CGM, use the criteria below to determine if a CGM is appropriate likely to be covered by the patient's insurance.

### Section 1: Scenario

Do any of these scenarios apply to the patient?

#### Scenario #1

Patient is **on multiple daily insulin injection** and CGM will reduce multiple finger sticks per day for glycemic monitoring.

#### Scenario

Patient with **hypoglycemia** patient to

#### Scenario #3

Use CGM to **adjust medications**, including basal or prandial insulins, by understanding glycemic patterns.

#### Scenario

Patient with **obesity** who changes from loss. Not c

## Type 2 Diabetes Care Insurance Coverage Worksheet



### MY HEALTH CARE PROVIDER RECOMMENDS

Check insurance coverage for the following (check all that apply)

- Glucometer & Test Strips**  
A device that measures blood sugar from fingerpoke.
- Continuous Glucose Monitor (CGM)**  
Brand names like Libre, Dexcom. A newer device that reads blood sugar without fingerpokes.
- SGLT2i**  
A newer type of diabetes medication (pill). Brands like Jardiance or Farxiga.
- GLP-1 R**  
A newer type medication. Brands like Trulicity, or

### MY INSURANCE INFORMATION

Find your insurance company's contact information on the back of your insurance card. If you cannot locate your card, search the Internet for your insurance company's phone number.

#### EXAMPLE CARD FRONT



#### EXAMPLE CARD BACK



### WHAT TO ASK

#### 1) Do I have a deductible?

What is a deductible? The amount of money that must be paid each year before insurance pays for anything.

- Yes  
 No

IF YES

What is my deductible? \$

How much of my deductible is left? \$

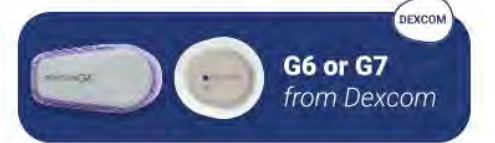
What is my out-of-pocket max? \$

## Resources for Getting Started with Continuous Glucose Monitors



Continuous glucose monitors (CGMs) can help you manage your diabetes by providing real-time glucose readings, eliminating the need for frequent finger pokes. CGMs allow you to learn how food impacts your blood sugar, helping you make healthier decisions in the future. You can also easily share glucose data with your family and healthcare team while tracking your trends over time. We've gathered some resources to help you get started with your CGM. If you have any more questions, reach out to your healthcare team for support.

Two of the most common brands of CGMs used by patients with type 2 diabetes:



I am using or was prescribed this brand and model of CGM: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Write in your CGM here.*

I want to learn more about getting started with a CGM.

**FreeStyle Libre 2 or 3**  
Attend a free online class with a certified diabetes educator that covers the basics of how CGMs work and how to get started.  
  
Register online at [MyFreeStyleLive.com](http://MyFreeStyleLive.com)

**Dexcom G6 or G7**  
Attend a free online classes on a variety of topics including app and receiver setup, CGM basics, and data sharing. See back for more info.  
  
Register online at [www.dexcom.com/en-us/dexcom-care](http://www.dexcom.com/en-us/dexcom-care)

# Questions?

**Kara Mizokami-Stout MD, MSc**

**Email: [kmizokam@med.umich.edu](mailto:kmizokam@med.umich.edu)**

**X (formerly Twitter): [@KMizokamiStout](https://twitter.com/KMizokamiStout)**

# Resources

## □ Getting started:

- <https://www.mct2d.org/>
- <https://pro.aace.com/cgm/toolkit/agp>

## □ Specific devices:

- <https://www.freestyle.abbott/us-en/home.html>
- <https://www.dexcom.com/en-us>
- <https://www.medtronicdiabetes.com/products/guardian-connect-continuous-glucose-monitoring-system>
- <https://www.ascensiadiabetes.com/eversense/get-started-today>

## □ Guidelines:

- **ADA:**  
[https://diabetesjournals.org/care/article/46/Supplement\\_1/S111/148041/7-Diabetes-Technology-Standards-of-Care-in](https://diabetesjournals.org/care/article/46/Supplement_1/S111/148041/7-Diabetes-Technology-Standards-of-Care-in)
- **AACE:** <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1530891X22005766?via%3Dihub>
- **Time in Range:**  
<https://diabetesjournals.org/care/article/42/8/1593/36184/Clinical-Targets-for-Continuous-Glucose-Monitoring>



# Libre 3

- Real-time CGM (sent every 1 minute), 33' range
- MARD 8.9% overall (7.9% without glycemic challenges)
- All-in-one sensor, 70% smaller than Libre 2
- Worn on back of arm
- 60 minute warm-up
- 14-day sensor
- Apps:
  - FreeStyle Libre 3
- Not yet approved as part of automated insulin delivery systems
- Approved for gestational diabetes and pregnancy
- Newly approved Libre 3 reader
- Not yet covered by Medicare
- Cash price (30-day supply): ~\$130 with coupon



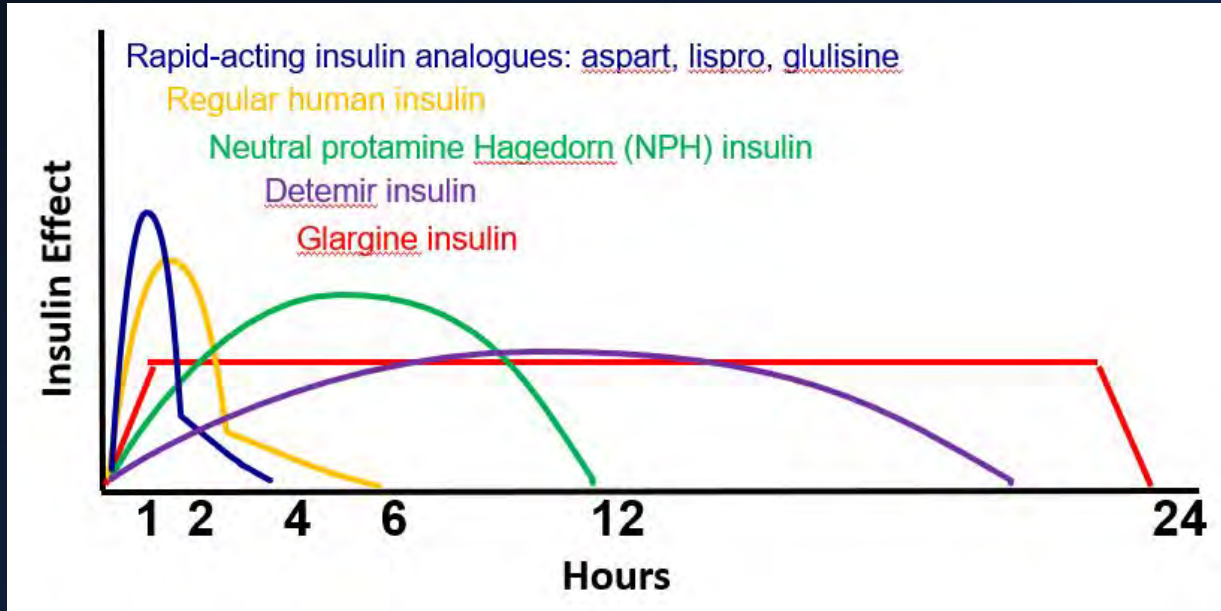
# Dexcom G7



<https://www.dexcom.com/en-us/g7-cgm-system>

- Real-time CGM (sent every 5 minutes), 20' range
- MARD 8.2% overall
- All-in-one sensor, 60% smaller than G7
- Worn on back of arm
- 30 minute warm-up
- 10-day sensor
  - 12-hour grace period
- Apps:
  - Dexcom Follow – share with up to 10 people
  - Dexcom Clarity
- Not yet approved as part of automated insulin delivery systems
- Approved for gestational diabetes and pregnancy
- Optional receiver
- Covered by Medicare
- Cash price (30-day supply): ~\$170 with coupon

# NPH for Steroid-Induced Hyperglycemia



- **Steroid duration of action:**
  - Prednisone: 12-36 hours (peaks at 4-6 hours)
  - Methylprednisolone: 12-36 hours
  - Dexamethasone: 24-72 hours (peaks at 8-10 hours)

Low Dose Glucocorticoid dose		High Dose Glucocorticoid dose	
10-39 mg Prednisone/ Prednisolone <u>or</u> 40-159 mg Hydrocortisone <u>or</u> 8-31 mg Methylprednisolone <u>or</u> 1.5-5.9 mg Dexamethasone/ 24 hours		>= 40 mg Prednisone/ Prednisolone <u>or</u> >= 160 mg Hydrocortisone <u>or</u> >= 32 mg Methylprednisolone <u>or</u> >= 6 mg Dexamethasone /24 hours	
↓ ↓		↓ ↓	
No DM	Type 2 DM	No DM	Type 2 DM
5 units NPH per glucocorticoid dose*	10 units NPH per glucocorticoid dose*	10 units NPH per glucocorticoid dose*	20 units NPH per glucocorticoid dose*
<p>*Full dose NPH given at the same time as glucocorticoid administration <i>except</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Methylprednisolone/ hydrocortisone dosed every 4-6 hours or dexamethasone- NPH given three times per day at 0800, 1600, and 2200. 2200 dose reduced 25%.</li> <li>• If patient is NPO, start dose at 50%</li> </ul>			

**Figure 3. NPH Treatment for Experimental Group- Initial Starting Dose**  
*Abbreviations: DM = Diabetes Mellitus; NPH = Neutral Protamine Hagedorn*