

Update on Flash Glucose Monitoring in Kent and Medway

Kent Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

25 January 2019

On 14 November 2019, NHS England announced that all CCGs would have to enable prescribing of flash glucose monitoring for appropriate patients from April 2019.

All CCGs in Kent are now working towards implementing this policy.

The development of proposals for implementation have been undertaken in light of the policies of other areas across England, but in particular any local policies developed / underdevelopment by Kent and Medway CCGs in order to achieve a consistent STP approach to the prescribing pathway.

The current position in each CCG area is as follows:

NHS West Kent CCG

The CCG together with Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust (MTW) and local GPs are working together to come up with a definitive local implementation and prescribing plan to allow the prescribing of Freestyle Libre in west Kent. This process is currently underway and the CCG aiming to have developed and approved the implementation and prescribing process over the next few months. The details of the process are yet to be agreed, but it is envisaged that prescribing of Freestyle Libre will be initiated by the specialist diabetes clinician in hospitals and then supported by GPs.

North Kent CCGs (NHS Dartford Gravesham and Swanley CCG and NHS Swale CCG).

Initially, a consultant in a specialist setting such as a hospital will prescribe Freestyle Libre for a patient who meets the nationally-agreed criteria. A GP would then continue prescribing Freestyle Libre once it has been initiated by a consultant. This process is being introduced in DGS and Swale prior to April 2019.

East Kent CCGs (NHS Ashford, NHS Canterbury and Coastal, NHS South Kent Coast and NHS Thanet CCGs).

On 17 January 2019 the east Kent CCGs Clinical Assurance and Strategy Committee (**CASC**) agreed the following on flash glucose monitoring:

- An east Kent CCG and East Kent Hospitals University Foundation Trust policy
- A prior approval process
- A patient contract
- Patient pathway, including prescription collection

A review of these documents will be undertaken by the CASC in July 2019 following the expected publication of NHS England guidance. Agreement on the financial aspect of service delivery is now being sought via the east Kent Contracting, Finance and Performance Joint Committee, and the service will be live by April 2019. Flash glucose monitoring in east Kent will be initiated and prescribed by specialist diabetes teams at East Kent Hospitals University Foundation Trust and following patient review at six months, ongoing prescribing will transfer to primary care by month 12 (post initiation).