

Diabetes technology in sussex

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Proposed outcome

It is important that all people living with type 2 diabetes who meet NICE guidelines for CGM receive this important technology in a timely manner. Progress on CGM implementation is very slow in Sussex and we want to see a clear timeline for implementation for all eligible patients. We are also particularly interested in understanding how Sussex ICB are defining the most vulnerable patients.

Implications for People Living With Diabetes

1. Diabetes technologies have significant impacts on people's lives: improving their well-being, preventing devastating complications and enabling them to work and socialise.
2. CGM has been shown to be cost effective:
 - Better self-management to reduce risk of complications which take up bulk of diabetes spending in NHS
 - Has been shown to reduce hospitalisations for hypos (cost of hospitalisation for a severe hypo is estimated at £2,600 each time)
 - Reduces costs for test strips/lancets (estimated saving on this equipment of £650 per person per year)
3. Current inequality of care: people with type 2 diabetes who are on insulin and have similar needs to people with type 1 diabetes, don't currently have access and are being treated differently. This will create a two-tier system for people living with diabetes
4. Sussex ICB has a remit to tackle inequalities, and failure to act will result in an increase in inequalities

Mick's story

“Having this tech would allow me and encourage me to check my sugars more often..... I just need that little help.”

“I feel that I’m being punished for trying my best to control this condition for many years. No matter how hard I try I still have hypos which can leave me feeling unwell and affect my ability to work.”

Closing remarks

- There is strong evidence to demonstrate that CGM is both clinically and cost-effective in helping people live well with diabetes
- We are pleased to hear that Sussex ICB have approved CGM for those eligible people living with type 2 diabetes, starting with the most clinically vulnerable
- We would like a clear timeline, as soon as possible, of when the guidance is to be implemented and how the most vulnerable people are being defined
- **We are happy to support every step of the way.**

Thank you