

## **Eversense CGM - Asked and Answered**

The excellent implantable [Eversense CGM](#), now with a life of 6 months [and soon 12 months](#), has been available to Americans for several years.

A BCDiabetes client using Eversense has kindly provided the materials below on her experience with the Eversense and how to purchase the Eversense and get it implanted and explanted, costs, etc.

### **What is the Eversense?**

Check out this short video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hmOuPSyU4tE>

### **What are some great features of the Eversense?**

The Eversense on-body alerts are the best. Not only are they convenient, but they help keep my sugars tighter, because I am immediately aware of when my sugar is going high or low, and therefore, I address it earlier. I also appreciate the gentle warning when I'm in meetings, without my phone having to go off. I can then tactfully maneuver the conversation to get sugar, etc. It's great. Sometimes the on-body alerts wake me up while I'm sleeping, but I'm a very heavy sleeper, so the alerts and alarm are often not persistent enough for me.

I also prefer the visual on the Eversense app to the Dexcom G7 app. The graph is larger and easier to read.

The Eversense adhesive is also great. My skin reacts to the Dexcom adhesive, but the Eversense adhesive is very mild and doesn't bother my skin at all.

The Eversense is super easy to take on and off because it's just a sticker. This gives me lots of flexibility, and there is no risk of anything being ripped out of your skin.

Finally, it only takes five minutes to charge the transmitter, so I put it on the charger when I'm in the shower. The battery lasts about 36 hours.

### **How do you purchase the Eversense?**

I reached out to Sensionics/Ascencia directly and got connected with one of their representatives. Now that I (and possibly a few other Canadians) have purchased an Eversense, hopefully the American reps will be less thrown off by your call and the process.

I purchase the Eversense directly from Sensionics' distributor, Edwards Health Care Services. Make sure you ask them for an emailed receipt, because they won't automatically provide you with this, and it is unnerving just paying for it over the phone with no record of purchase. A

receipt is also typically necessary if you want to try and submit this expense under a benefits policy.

### **Did you get a doctor in the states to fill the prescription? Who does the insertions?**

When I first got the Eversense, my doctor in Vancouver filled out a medical necessity form, but since then, I have done all the rest through [Dr. Peter Billings](#), a bariatric physician in Lynwood, Washington who does my removals/insertions. I live in Vancouver, BC, and we have been driving down to Dr. Billing's clinic, a 5 hour round-trip, every six months. (The switch to a 360-day device will be great!)

Doctors have to be trained on inserting the Eversense, and this doctor, Dr. Billing, is the closest trained doctor to Vancouver. If you live somewhere else in Canada, just ask Sensionics/Ascencia who the closest doctor is to you.

Edwards Health Care Services ships my Eversense and related supplies directly to Dr. Billings. Make sure that they ship everything that you need in time for your appointment because Edwards does not ship to Canada.

### **How much does it cost?**

There are three categories of charges: 1) the sensor, 2) the transmitter, and 3) the doctor appointments. The 180-day sensor costs \$1,999.80 USD, which must be purchased every six months. Hopefully, the 360-day sensor will be the same price (so half the cost overall), but I haven't purchased one yet, as it just got approved. The transmitter lasts one year, and it costs \$600 USD. Each removal/insertion appointment costs \$250 USD, but the initial appointment was slightly less because it was only an insertion.

### **Do Canadian insurance plans cover it?**

Many Canadian insurance plans do not cover the Eversense yet. However, my spouse's health insurance through Canada Life covers \$4,000 CAD of my Eversense costs every 2 years, so it's possible to get some insurance coverage in Canada.

### **How often do you have to calibrate?**

I calibrate my Eversense once a day, and when the sensor is first inserted, it asks for calibrations a few more times in the first couple days. I generally calibrate at the same time every day, and there is a 4-hour grace period in which you can calibrate.

The need for calibrations can be a turn off for some people, but I barely notice it, and it doesn't bother me at all. I tested my blood about 10 times a day by pricking my fingers for 20 years before getting the Eversense, so I'm used to it. As a result of the calibrations, I trust my

Eversense much more than other CGMs that I have tried, which have seemed to be less accurate and more sporadic.

short URL = <https://bit.ly/4kf8Ozn>