



Patient Care + Research + Clinical Trials

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## **BCDiabetes Gala Fund-a-need - CGM/glucose sensors**

In January 2018 a life-changing technology, [continuous glucose meters](#) (CGM, also known as sensors), arrived on the Canadian market.

Since then CGM has become the standard of care in diabetes for individuals requiring intensive insulin therapy (multiple daily injections of insulin or insulin pumps).

Compared to traditional finger-poke technology, continuous glucose meters offer superior blood sugar control, better safety (reduced incidence of low blood) sugar & improved quality of life. Patients using these devices no longer need to poke their fingers.

CGM costs \$90/month - it is covered by most private health insurers but not covered by BC Pharmacare. This means that CGM technology is beyond the means of more than half the patients who need it. Last year this meant that 300 patients seen at BCDiabetes who deserved CGM had to do without. And most patients who need them require their use long-term.

The fund-a-need program will provide these devices to patients in need while approval of CGM by BC Pharmacare is awaited. BCDiabetes' highest priority in its lobbying efforts with BC Pharmacare is coverage for CGM and other life-saving therapies.

For further information do not hesitate to call me on 604-638-0431 or email me at [drtomelliott@bcdiabetes.ca](mailto:drtomelliott@bcdiabetes.ca)

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