

2021-Jan-25

To Whom It May Concern

Re: Medical necessity: Continuous Glucose Monitors (CGMs)

At the time of writing there are three manufacturers of devices in the continuous glucose meter (CGM) class on the Canadian market. They are Dexcom (G6), Abbott (with the Freestyle Libre and Freestyle Libre 2) and Medtronic (with the Medtronic Guardian Connect). *Note, the Freestyle Libre and Libre 2 are considered by some to be in a separate class, that of "Flash" glucose devices.* All these devices represent a dramatic advancement in diabetes technology - they allow for measurement every 1-5 minutes interstitial glucose, the values of which are either 1) automatically sent to a smartphone or "pulled" from the device with a receiver. They allow for the setting of high and low alarms - as such they notify the user of potentially dangerous glucose readings.

Since 2018 these devices have been considered a medical necessity for all individuals undergoing intensive insulin therapy (with an insulin pump or with multiple daily injections of insulin ie all individuals with Type 1 diabetes and many individuals with Type 2 diabetes). Mr. McMillan is one such individual. In some cases insurers have initially granted coverage for CGM only to deny it later when A1c improves to being "within target". To deny CGM once optimal control has been achieved is an extreme irony - these devices are a major reason for optimal control having been achieved, however their ongoing use is required to maintain optimal control. Thus these devices are required life-long.

This letter also constitutes a prescription for one of the devices described in the paragraph above.

Please afford my patient expedited service to allow purchasing and maintaining this potentially life-saving device.

Yours sincerely



Tom Elliott