



Patient Care + Research + Clinical Trials

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First Nations Health Authority  
British Columbia

Dear FNHA

**Re: Medical necessity: Continuous Glucose Monitors (CGMs) for EVERY First Nations person on insulin therapy**

BCDiabetes has been [advocating for BC Pharmacare coverage for CGM devices](#) for >2 years - please sign our [BC Pharmacare CGM petition](#) now with >22,000 signatures.

At the time of writing there are three devices in the [continuous glucose meter](#) (CGM) class on the Canadian market. 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 January 2019 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. The BCDiabetes client whose request for CGM you have received meets these criteria. This letter also constitutes a prescription for one of the devices described above.

With respect to the choice of CGM: for clients with Type 1 diabetes the Dexcom G6 is the standard of care (\$9.83 with an annual subscription); while for clients with Type 2 diabetes on multiple daily injections the Freestyle Libre is the standard of care (\$6.49 per day).

Please afford my client expedited service to allow purchasing and maintaining this potentially life-saving device. I would be happy to speak with you further on please call 6046380431.

Yours sincerely

Tom Elliott

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