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## Flash glucometer/CGM is the "Fund-a-need" for 2019 Fundraiser

2019-Jan-1 Fourteen months ago a life-changing disruptive technology, flash glucometers/CGM arrived on the Canadian market.

Since that time this, and related technology has become the standard of care in diabetes for individuals on 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.

Flash glucometer/CGM costs \$6.50/day - it is covered by most private health insurers but not covered by BC Pharmacare. This means that this life-changing technology is beyond the means of 70% of patients seen at BCDiabetes. Last year alone this meant that 700 patients seen at BCDiabetes who deserved CGM had to do without. And most patients who need them require their use long-term.

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

The Fund-a-need program will be front and centre at the BCDiabetes Fundraiser April 4, 2019 at Science World. Tickets to the fundraiser can be purchased online or at BCDiabetes. All donations will be eligible for a CRA tax receipt. 2019-May-10 - \$112,000 were raised at the Fundraiser 2019-Apr-4 at Science World!

For further information do not hesitate to call me on 604-960-1347 or email me at drtomelliott@bcdiabetes.ca