

## **What you need to know to support your patients with the Diabetes Meter Change**

This is a summary of information. Along with this summary are two quick reference information sheets provided by Pharmaco and also a recording of the education evening held on the 30<sup>th</sup> Jan 2018 in Invercargill by the Pharmaco Representatives. At the bottom of the page are links full details on both PHARMAC & Pharmaco websites.

Please note: on the recording the information that all Type I Diabetes patients are eligible for a funded meter switch is inaccurate. The details below are correct.

### **Which patients are affected?**

Patients with Type I Diabetes who are testing blood glucose AND ketones.

Patients currently using a CareSens II Meter (i.e. prescribed CareSens Test strips).

### **What will happen?**

Pharmacies will switch patients to the appropriate meter for them if they are eligible for funding. This means the prescription for their test strips will need to be changed at the medical practice. Either the pharmacy or the patient will inform you of the change.

### **Which patients are eligible for funding?**

#### **Type I Diabetes**

- Patients who have never had a CareSens N or N-Pop meter AND are also currently using a CareSens II Meter (this is very unlikely scenario)
- Patients who have been testing blood glucose & ketones using a meter brand other than CareSens (i.e. Accu-chek Performa, Freestyle Optium/Neo)

#### **Type II Diabetes**

- Patients who are prescribed a sulphonylurea or insulin who are currently using a CareSens II Meter (having never been prescribed a CareSens N or N-Pop meter or CareSens N strips)

To clarify :- *patients currently using CareSens II Meters who are taking Metformin alone DO NOT qualify for a funded switch.*

### **What can patients do if they want a meter and are not eligible for a funded one?**

This will mainly be those patients currently testing their blood glucose using a CareSens II Meter who are prescribed Metformin alone. However some other patients may wish to upgrade due to new meters having Bluetooth capabilities, which eases monitoring with the smart phone apps (android & i-phone).

- Purchase a meter from the pharmacy or on-line <https://pharmacodiabetes.co.nz/products/meters/>
- Contact Pharmaco helpline 0800 GLUCOS (0800 458267) to arrange purchase
- Prescribers can obtain one blood glucose meter per MPSO for their practice. Diabetes Practice Nurse or Patient's prescriber may decide that it is appropriate to issue the patient with a

### **What strips do the new meters take?**

CareSens N Premier = CareSens N Strips

CareSens Dual = CareSens PRO Strips to test blood glucose

= KetoSens Strips to test blood ketones

### **Key sources of information & training**

#### **PHARMAC**

<https://www.pharmac.govt.nz/medicines/my-medicine-has-changed/diabetes-meters/>

<http://www.pharmac.govt.nz/Schedule?osq=caresens>

#### **Pharmaco**

FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS <http://www.pharmacodiabetes-training.co.nz/>

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FOR PATIENTS <https://pharmacodiabetes.co.nz/>