Continuous Glucose Monitor (CGM)

Policy MP-008

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Disclaimer:
1. Policies are subject to change in accordance with State and Federal notice requirements.
2. Policies outline coverage determinations for U of U Health Plans Commercial, and Healthy U (Medicaid) plans. Refer to the “Policy” section for more information.

Description:
The American Diabetes Association (ADA) defines the continuous glucose monitoring system as “a method of continuously following glucose levels in the interstitial fluid as a base for improving metabolic control. This includes increasing time in the target glucose range by reducing hyperglycemia and minimizing the occurrence of low glucose values (including symptomatic hypoglycemia).”

Policy Statement and Criteria

1. Commercial Plans
   U of U Health Plans may cover non-implantable continuous glucose monitors (CGM) when the following criteria are met:

   A. Criteria for Coverage (i-vii):
      i. Member at least 2 years old
      ii. Request is from a treating endocrinologist or diabetes specialist.
      iii. Diabetes members with at least one year of subcutaneous insulin therapy if over age 13
      iv. Documentation through log books of treatment regimen consisting of three or more injections of insulin per day including both long-acting insulin analogs (insulin glargine, insulin detemir or insulin degludec) plus a short-acting insulin analog (insulin aspart, insulin lispro or insulin glulisine) for at least two months prior to initiation of continuous glucose monitor. Must have at least 80% compliance over two months.
v. Has downloaded logs of glucose self-testing at least 4 times per day for 60 consecutive days in the three months prior to request for approval.

vi. Documentation of diabetes specialist’s assessment of ability to train member on appropriate use of continuous glucose monitor.

vii. Documentation of at least 2 visits with a diabetes specialist during the six months prior to initiation.

viii. Meets one or more of the following criteria while on a multiple daily injection insulin:
   a) Glycosylated hemoglobin levels (HbA1c) greater than 7%.
   b) Recent history (within the last six months) of significant, recurring hypoglycemia (less than 60mg per deciliter or requiring assistance).
   c) Wide fluctuations (well above and below set glycemic targets) in blood glucose before and after meal times, despite appropriate adjustment of doses.
   d) At least one documented incidence of hyperglycemic hyperosmotic syndrome or diabetic ketoacidosis within the previous six months.
   e) Type I diabetes mellitus.

B. Covered Products:
   i. Dexcom G4
   ii. Dexcom G5
   iii. Dexcom G6
   iv. Medtronic Enlite
   v. Medtronic Guardian
   vi. Freestyle Libre systems are not considered continuous glucose monitors and are covered under the pharmacy benefit.

C. Exemptions:
   i. Patients with gestational diabetes or diabetes during pregnancy are exempted from previous management provisions of this policy.

D. Renewals (i-iii):
   i. Patients must have had at least 2 visits with a diabetes specialist within the previous 12 months.
ii. Hemoglobin A1c levels must have been checked at least every 6 months within the previous year.

iii. Documentation must show that the member is adhering to the treatment plan outlined by a diabetes specialist.

E. Exclusions:
   i. Members taking medications that would impair cognitive function or ability to appropriately respond to alerts including chronic opioids, benzodiazepines, or sedatives.
   ii. Member younger than age 2 years.
   iii. Members who require use of chronic acetaminophen.
      a) Prior use of samples will not be considered in the determination of a member’s eligibility for coverage for this medication.

U of U Health Plans does NOT cover implantable continuous glucose monitors (CGM) systems (e.g. Eversense® CGM System) as they are considered investigational.

2. Medicaid Plans
   Coverage is determined by the State of Utah Medicaid program; if Utah State Medicaid has no published coverage position and InterQual criteria are not available, the U of U Health Plans Commercial criteria will apply. For the most up-to-date Medicaid policies and coverage, please visit their website at http://health.utah.gov/medicaid/manuals/directory.php or the Utah Medicaid code Look-Up tool

Clinical Rationale
A review of literature performed in January 2012 identified 2 systematic reviews and 17 peer-reviewed articles since the last review performed in 2004. After review of the supportive articles, especially the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) Continuous Glucose Monitoring Study (Beck et al), the following is a summation of specific patient groups who may benefit from a CGM.

It would seem clinically apparent that glucose measurement every 5 minutes in patients with type 1 diabetes would enhance glucose control and avoid potentially life threatening hypoglycemic events. The evidence in multiple randomized studies demonstrates limited clinical improvement except in adult type 1 patients over the age of 25. This age group demonstrated a decline of A1C by 0.53%. Unfortunately, children and adolescents did not have improvement A1C levels. Hypoglycemia in most of the studies did not show changes in frequency. In the STAR-1 trial severe hypoglycemic rates were higher in the CGM group.

As CGM relates to improvement in hypoglycemic awareness, supporters of CGM report that hypoglycemia with the use of CGM in compliant patients was 11.2 events per 100 patient years over the 12 months of the JDRF CGM study compared with 86 per 100 patient-years in the Diabetic Control and
Complication Trail (DCCT). Surprisingly most CGM studies were not powered to demonstrate a lowering of hypoglycemic rates. Most focused on A1C reduction as the target for efficacy. It appears, as illustrated in the article by Battelino et al., that hypoglycemia in type 1 diabetic patients with A1C <7.5 may attain enhanced diabetic control without an increase in hypoglycemic events by using a CGM.

The key article which highlights the discrepancy in results from CGM in the medical literature is the sub-analysis of the JDRF study by Beck et al. This article demonstrated that success with CGM in A1C reduction was determined by the duration the CGM was worn. The goal is >6 days/week use. All patients who succeeded in this goal achieved improvement in the A1C.

From Beck et al.’s analysis, 2 factors seemed to determine the frequency of success for the duration of CGM use; 1) the age of the patient and 2) the frequency of SMBG testing prior to initiation of the CGM. In subjects with baseline A1C >7.0% “Daily use after 6 months was strongly associated with age, with 83% of subjects >25 years sustaining CGM use >6 days/week compared with 30% of subjects 15-24 years and 50% of subjects 8-14 years. After adjustment for age, the only other baseline factor associated with successful use after 6 months was the frequency of self-reported pre-study daily blood glucose meter measurements. Subjects in all age groups who performed >6 meter measurements/day were more likely to use the CGM on a near-daily basis than those who were monitoring fewer times per day”. The outcome ratio was 1.0 for testing 3-5 times per day, 3.64 for 6-8 times per day and 4.16 for testing >9 times per day.

This Beck et al. article further goes on to summarize the potential gains and risks associated with CGM, noting CGM may be a powerful tool if used consistently. The age of the patient and frequency of pre-monitor SMBG appear predict those patients who have the most to gain from this technology.

With regard to the question of the clinical utility of CGM in patients with type 2 diabetes as discussed in the systematic reviews, A1C reductions may occur in type 2 diabetic patients who use CGM. The articles supporting CGM use have different goals and the types of enrollees are not consistent within the type 2 diabetic studies. Some of the studies include patients who are not on insulin. The studies were also typically of short duration. The American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists (AACE) and the American Diabetes Association (ADA) recommended further studies to predict success and compliance with the device to determine what patients have the most to gain clinically.

Another frequent use promoted for CGM is during pregnancy. Continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) personal systems during pregnancy has limited literature to support its use. Articles by Hawkins and Murphy et al., acknowledged CGM was useful in reducing the rates of fetal overgrowth and gestational weight gain. However, determining the optimal frequency and timing of CGM was not established. Professional (office-based or ambulatory) CGM has identified previously unknown hyperglycemia in pregnant women who have both gestational and type 1 diabetes. The AACE recommends that all pregnant women with type 1 diabetes to receive professional CGM. Women with type 2 diabetes are typically able to maintain adequate glucose control if they are adherent to a monitoring schedule requiring 6 SMBG readings per day. For these patients, CGM may facilitate treatment adherence, but its use is not absolutely indicated.

On March 27, 2018 the FDA created a new category of class II integrated CGM (iCGM) devices for 510(k) approval. The G6 CGM has been approved as the first 10-day nonadjunctive factory-calibrated system for ages 2 and older.

In June of 2018, the Eversense Continuous Glucose Monitoring system, a new prescribed CGM system, received FDA approval. This system is indicated for 90 day continuous use for adults (18 and up) and is intended to compliment, not replace fingerstick blood glucose monitoring. The sensor is inserted and
removed by a physician. The intentions are to provide real-time glucose readings, glucose trend information, and alerts for the detection and prediction of low and high blood glucose.

In summary, the current literature related to the impact CGM is expansive but diffuse. It identifies subpopulations of diabetics such as type 1 diabetics of certain ages which seem to obtain benefit and others who seemingly do not, e.g. gestational diabetes for personal CGM monitors. Many questions remain unanswered.

**Applicable Coding**

**CPT Codes**

95249  
Ambulatory continuous glucose monitoring of interstitial tissue fluid via a subcutaneous sensor for a minimum of 72 hours; patient-provided equipment, sensor placement, hook-up, calibration of monitor, patient training, and printout of recording

95250  
Ambulatory continuous glucose monitoring of interstitial tissue fluid via a subcutaneous sensor for a minimum of 72 hours; physician or other qualified health care professional (office) provided equipment, sensor placement, hook-up, calibration of monitor, patient training, removal of sensor, and printout of recording

95251  
Ambulatory continuous glucose monitoring of interstitial tissue fluid via a subcutaneous sensor for a minimum of 72 hours; analysis, interpretation and report

*Not Covered-Investigational*

0446T  
Creation of subcutaneous pocket with insertion of implantable interstitial glucose sensor, including system activation and patient training

0447T  
Removal of implantable interstitial glucose sensor from subcutaneous pocket via incision

0448T  
Removal of implantable interstitial glucose sensor with creation of subcutaneous pocket at different anatomic site and insertion of new implantable sensor, including system activation

**HCPCS Codes**

A9276  
Sensor; invasive (e.g., subcutaneous), disposable, for use with interstitial continuous glucose monitoring system, 1 unit = 1 day supply

A9277  
Transmitter; external, for use with interstitial continuous glucose monitoring system

A9278  
Receiver (monitor); external, for use with interstitial continuous glucose monitoring system

K0553  
Supply allowance for therapeutic continuous glucose monitor (CGM), includes all supplies and accessories, 1 month supply = 1 Unit of Service
K0554  Receiver (monitor), dedicated, for use with therapeutic glucose continuous monitor system

S1030  Continuous noninvasive glucose monitoring device, purchase (for physician interpretation of data, use CPT code)

S1031  Continuous noninvasive glucose monitoring device, rental, including sensor, sensor replacement, and download to monitor (for physician interpretation of data, use CPT code)

S1035  Sensor; invasive (e.g., subcutaneous), disposable, for use with artificial pancreas device system

S1036  Transmitter; external, for use with artificial pancreas device system

S1037  Receiver (monitor); external, for use with artificial pancreas device system

References:


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