Hospital Use of FreeStyle Libre System During COVID-19 Pandemic

According to the CDC, more than 50 percent of people with diabetes who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 are hospitalized. Monitoring these admitted patients puts both the patient and healthcare workers at an increased risk of exposure as they need to enter patients' rooms multiple times a day to conduct glucose testing. The FreeStyle Libre 14 day system, the world's leading continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) technology, can now be used in the hospital setting during the COVID-19 pandemic, according to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

To minimize this risk, Abbott worked with the American Diabetes Association (ADA) to ensure hospitals across the country can use its FreeStyle Libre technology, the leading continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) system that eliminates the need for fingersticks for people with diabetes.

Why this matters:

- Remote monitoring during this public health crisis is vital, especially in the hospital setting where healthcare providers are tasked with minimizing exposures to COVID-19 and preserving use of personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Access to the CGM technology allows frontline healthcare workers to remotely monitor and protect their admitted patients with diabetes while continuing to tend to the influx of critical care needs.
  - With a one-second scan using a reader or smartphone over Abbott’s FreeStyle Libre 14 day sensor, users get real-time glucose readings every minute, which is captured along with trends and actionable information that is shared with physicians to make important treatment decisions.

In addition, to provide greater access to the technology where it is needed most, Abbott, in partnership with the American Diabetes Association, Insulin for Life USA and Diabetes Disaster Response Coalition, donated 25,000 FreeStyle Libre sensors to U.S. hospitals in outbreak hotspots.

For more information:
FreeStyle Libre System: Remote Monitoring / Telehealth Capabilities

In today's current health pandemic, we're seeing a greater acceptance of telehealth and remote monitoring from patients, including those living with diabetes. This situation will likely lead to more willingness to continue health management through connected technologies beyond the pandemic.

That's why it is critical for health companies to offer a digital ecosystem such as the one developed around the FreeStyle Libre technology that allows for people with diabetes and their healthcare teams to connect remotely, securely, and at no cost to provide the appropriate care needed.

- Abbott's FreeStyle LibreLink app enables FreeStyle Libre users to capture and view their real-time glucose levels, their eight-hour glucose history and how their glucose is currently changing directly from their smartphone.
- A free digital tool, LibreLinkUp allows loved ones and caregivers to remotely see glucose data shared by people who use the FreeStyle LibreLink mobile app and FreeStyle Libre glucose sensors, helping them monitor their glucose levels.
- LibreView is a secure cloud-based diabetes management system that gives people with diabetes and their healthcare professionals clear, easy-to-understand glucose data reports from the FreeStyle Libre system.

For more information:

https://www.freestylelibre.us/system-overview/continuous-glucose-monitor-app.html

Regulatory Announcements – Abbott’s FreeStyle Libre 2 iCGM Cleared by the U.S. FDA
Abbott announced that the FDA cleared FreeStyle Libre 2 as an integrated continuous glucose monitor (iCGM). Now cleared for use for the millions of adults and now children (4+ years) living with diabetes, the FreeStyle Libre 2 iCGM has unsurpassed 14-day accuracy, optional real-time alarms and every-minute glucose readings to better manage the condition.

Key benefits of FreeStyle Libre 2:

- **Optional Real-Time Alarms**: Only iCGM available with customizable, optional real-time alarms to alert users when their glucose is too high or low without scanning
- **Longest-Lasting Wearable iCGM**: First and only iCGM that lasts up to 14 days, providing trends, insights and actionable data that will help people make more informed decisions to reach better health outcomes
- **Unsurpassed 14-Day Accuracy and Performance**: Excellent accuracy and reliable alarm performance, including when glucose levels are very low for both adults and children, giving parents peace of mind
- **Cost-Effective**: To be priced the same as FreeStyle Libre 14 day system, which is 70% less than other CGMs currently available

For more information: