NHS
Portsmouth &
South East Hampshire
Clinical Commissioning Groups

Information for Healthcare Professionals regarding the FreeStyle Libre "flash" intermittently assessed continuous glucose monitoring (iCGM) system and NHS availablilty in Portsmouth and SE Hampshire

This iCGM system has been available in the UK for private purchase for 2-3 years now and as of Feb 2018 following an NHS England recommendation and Regional Medication Optimisation Committee positive assessment, has been made available locally for specific individuals with diabetes by the Hampshire and IOW Priorities Committee

There are however eligibility criteria against which individuals must be assessed and a locally approved pathway which should be followed, requiring that the initiation of the device is undertaken by a suitably qualified diabetes specialty consultant, and assessment made over an initial 6 month period to determine that benefit has accrued from its use.

This circular is therefore designed to make you aware both of the eligibility criteria for referral to specialty care for the device and the processes which will then follow (including later on-going prescribing responsibilities in primary care after the initial 6 month assessment period).

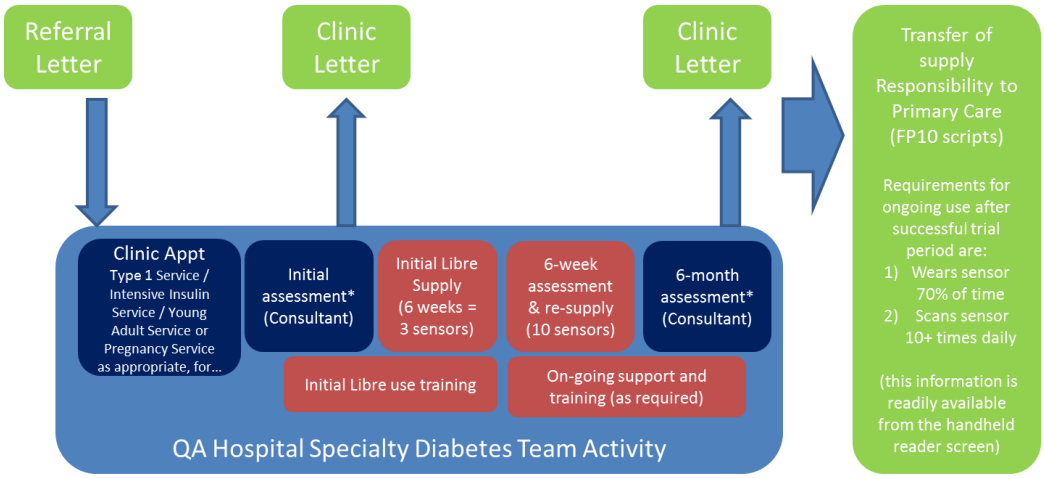
The formal eligibility criteria for FreeStyle Libre have been published and are available at:

https://www.southeasternhampshireccg.nhs.uk/Downloads/Priorities%20statement/Flash%20Glucose%20monitoring.pdf

Briefly, the criteria to allow referral for iCGM assessment by the specialist team are:

1) Individual has Type 1 diabetes (or is pregnant and uses insulin for type 2 diabetes)
2) Individual is using Carb-counted basal / bolus insulin regimen
3) Individual has attended a structured education programme for optimisation of (2)
4) Individual is undertaking 8 or more SMBG tests daily

Below is a schematic of the referral and actions process which has been locally agreed



* To include consent to share data, goal setting, self-efficacy assessment , audit data collection and assessment of sensor use and goals achievement after 6 months

All individuals who use Libre under NHS funding will have to be prepared to share their glucose data with the specialty diabetes team in order that assessments of its impact can be made. Ongoing supply after the initial 6 month period will depend upon a) successful goals attainment during the first 6 months and b) continued effective use of the sensor thereafter (70% wear and 10 scans per day). Both of the latter requirements are easily accessible by review of the "sensor use" screen on the reader, and so will NOT require primary care colleagues to download glucose data (unless they wish to do so). At the end of 1 year the impact of this initiative will be assessed through structured audit as part of the National (ABCD) FreeStyle Libre Audit, for which the specialty care team will be responsible to provide the clinical data.

The HIOW priorities committee plan to review the place of this technology in the management of diabetes in 2019 and will advise further then.

Should you have a patient whom you feel meets these criteria please refer (as per usual processes) to the specialty team mentioning "Libre" in the referral letter, so that the individual can be triaged to an appropriate clinic service.

This information has been circulated on behalf of the Area Prescribing Committee May 2018