

Notice from the Executive Officer: Funding Flash Glucose Monitoring System Through the Ontario Drug Benefit Program

September 12, 2019

Effective September 16, 2019, Ontario will fund FreeStyle Libre 14-day sensors and readers through the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) program.

This notice is to provide information to pharmacies on claim submissions and reimbursement for Flash Glucose Monitoring (FGM) systems using the Health Network System (HNS). This notice serves to communicate a ministry policy that must be adhered to in accordance with the HNS Subscription Agreement for Pharmacy Operators.

Overview – FreeStyle Libre 14-day sensors and reader

The FreeStyle Libre system belongs to a class of glucose monitoring systems called Flash Glucose Monitoring. It will be funded for ODB recipients on insulin therapy.

It has two components:

1. Disposable sensor worn on the back of the upper arm, and;
2. Reader (or via phone app) used to scan the sensor and review glucose data.

The FreeStyle Libre sensor measures glucose for 14 days and does not require the use of test strips for calibration purposes.

Reimbursement Criteria

All Ontario Drug Benefit recipients on insulin therapy with a valid prescription from a physician or nurse practitioner are eligible to receive ODB-funded FreeStyle Libre sensors and readers.

Reimbursement

Claims for FreeStyle Libre sensors and readers listed below will be reimbursed by the ministry. Pharmacies are eligible to be reimbursed in accordance with the following formula:

Reimbursable amount + mark-up + applicable ODB dispensing fee

Pharmacy Billing Procedure

The Product Identification Number (PIN) is to be used for billing purposes. Pharmacies will be reimbursed for supplying FGM sensors and readers in accordance with the table below.

PIN	PIN Description	Manufacturer	Reimbursable Amount
09857632	FreeStyle Libre 14-day Sensor	Abbott Laboratories Limited	\$89.0000
09857633	FreeStyle Libre Reader	Abbott Laboratories Limited	\$49.0000

Pharmacies are eligible to be reimbursed for the amount allowable for each PIN, applicable mark-up, and the pharmacy's applicable ODB dispensing fee.

For billing purposes, pharmacy documentation must be maintained in a readily available format for the purpose of post-payment verification for a minimum of 2 years. Overpayments due to inappropriate claim submissions are subject to recovery.

ODB-eligible Recipients

Claims must be submitted online through the HNS. The claim submission follows the normal process for submitting claims through the HNS:

- Product Identification Number (PIN)
- Valid Pharmacist ID

Restrictions

Only ODB-funded FGM readers and sensors supplied to an ODB eligible recipient with a valid prescription from a physician or nurse practitioner will be reimbursed.

Patients managing their diabetes with insulin are eligible for a maximum quantity of sensors over the course of a 365-day period as outlined in the table below:

Diabetes treatment	Maximum number of sensors (per 365 days) covered
Patients managing diabetes with insulin	33 (one sensor lasts up to 14 days)

Pharmacists must adhere to the quantity restriction as noted above. In addition, conditions for payment of a dispensing fee under the ODB program must be followed. More information is available here:

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/drugs/odbf_conditions_for_payment.aspx

The display of the sensors and readers in the eFormulary, as well as HNS network restrictions, will be updated to align with these quantity restrictions in the future.

Additional Information:

For pharmacies:

Please call ODB Pharmacy Help Desk at: 1-800-668-6641

For all other Health Care Providers and the Public:

Please call ServiceOntario, Infoline at 1-866-532-3161 TTY 1-800-387-5559.

In Toronto, TTY 416-327-4282