

## FreeStyle Libre®2 (Flash Glucose monitoring system)

### Background Information for Prescribers

FreeStyle Libre® 2 is now available so you may receive requests to prescribe it for new users or to upgrade existing users on the original FreeStyle Libre® to the new version, FreeStyle Libre®2.

All **new users** initiated on flash glucose monitoring will be given the FreeStyle Libre®2 system. The original FreeStyle Libre® sensors currently remain available for existing users.

The eligibility criteria for FreeStyle Libre® 2 are the same as the original FreeStyle Libre®, as are initiation requirements and prescribing information. These are detailed in the Pan Mersey [FLASH GLUCOSE MONITOR \(FreeStyle Libre® / Libre 2®\)](#) statement. FreeStyle Libre® 2 sensors cost the same as original Freestyle Libre® sensors. User instruction / information on Freestyle Libre® 2 is available from the manufacturer [here](#). Information for healthcare professionals is available [here](#).

#### What are the differences with the FreeStyle Libre®2 system?

**Optional alarm** – the user or carer can set an optional alarm to signal when the blood glucose is low or high, individualised for the user. There is also an alarm to notify the user if the sensor loses its signal from their device, with both the FreeStyle Libre®Link App on a smartphone and the FreeStyle Libre® 2 reader.

**Greater accuracy** - FreeStyle Libre® 2 avoids the need to confirm glucose readings using blood glucose testing strips, prior to adjusting insulin doses when the glucose levels are low (indicating hypoglycaemia or *impending* hypoglycaemic episode), or when glucose is rapidly changing. DVLA guidance has not been updated so drivers may need to use finger prick tests in some circumstances. Finger prick blood glucose checks are still required if the person’s symptoms or expectations do not match the glucose readings or alarms.

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#### Does the user require a new reader to scan the FreeStyle Libre® 2 sensor?

As with the original FreeStyle Libre®, the FreeStyle Libre® 2 sensor can be scanned with either a FreeStyle Libre® reader or with the FreeStyle Libre®Link app on a smartphone.

**If they have been using the original FreeStyle Libre® reader:** Users should request a new reader from the manufacturer (Abbott). This is provided free of charge. They will need to provide the serial number of their current FreeStyle Libre® reader but there is no requirement to return their original reader. Healthcare professionals should direct users to the online request portal: <https://www.freestylelibre.co.uk/libre/fsl2Replacement.html> or the Customer Careline: 0800 170 1177 (Mon-Fri 08:00 – 20:00, Sat 09:00 – 17:00 excl. bank holidays).

**If they have been using the FreeStyle Libre®Link app on a smartphone:** The app has been updated automatically on Apple and Google play. The user must ensure they are using the latest version on their smartphone.

| <u>Reader – sensor compatibility</u> | <u>Smartphone and LibreLink® app</u> | <u>Libre® 1 Reader (black)</u> | <u>Libre® 2 Reader (blue)</u> |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Libre® 1 sensor                      | YES - but NO alarms                  | YES – but NO alarms            | NO                            |
| Libre® 2 sensor                      | YES                                  | YES - but NO alarms            | YES                           |

### **What is the process for changing to FreeStyle Libre® 2 sensors?**

All **new users** initiated on flash glucose monitoring will be given the FreeStyle Libre®2 system.

Users of the original FreeStyle Libre® system may be changed over to the FreeStyle Libre® 2 sensors in primary care, where it is felt appropriate by the GP to do so. The user should have installed the latest version of the FreeStyle Libre®Link app on a smartphone or have obtained a Libre® 2 reader directly from the manufacturer. This may be a useful opportunity to review the persons use of the flash glucose monitoring and discuss ongoing use.

Where a specialist recommends to a user that they change to FreeStyle Libre® 2 sensors they must instruct them on use and inform their GP – see [here](#).

#### **The repeat prescription record can be updated as follows:**

FREESTYLE LIBRE 2 - 2 SENSORS / 28 DAYS (1 SENSOR LASTS 14 DAYS)

Please ensure that the previous prescription of FreeStyle Libre® sensors is removed from the patient's repeat record and the patient has used up any existing sensors to avoid waste.

**Please note** if a person experiences problems with the sensor falling off or it is faulty, they should contact the manufacturer on 0800 170 1177 in the first instance to resolve the issue and receive replacement sensor(s).