# CONTINUOUS GLUCOSE MONITORING IN ELDERLY PATIENTS WITH DIABETES MELLITUS

Derick Adams, DO

University of Kentucky Barnstable Brown Diabetes Center

# Objective

 Upon completion of this activity, participants will be able identify the benefits of continuous glucose monitoring in elderly patients with diabetes mellitus

#### Let's start with a case

- 78 year old male with type 2 diabetes mellitus since 1982
- Currently on glargine 11 units at night and lispro with a carbohydrate ratio of 1 unit for every 10 grams of carbohydrate and correction scale of 1 unit for every 50 in BG over 150
- His hemoglobin A1c has ranged from 6.8-8.1% over the last 2 years
- He has hypoglycemia awareness and has hypoglycemia 1-2 times/week on average
- He checks his fingerstick BG 4-6 times daily
- In the last several years he has had 3 episodes of nocturnal hypoglycemia that required EMS to be called

			1.07
Doctor:		Glucose Average:	16/
Result Type: m	ng/dL / Plasma	Glucose High:	504
Standard Deviation: 9	8	Glucose Low:	38
Before Meal Target: 7	0 - 130	# of Readings:	159
After Meal Target: 7	0 - 180	% Within Target:	35.8%
Overall Target: 7	0 - 130	% Above Target:	50.9%
Hypoglycemic Level: 6	9	% Below Target:	13.2%

#### Blood Tests

Date/Time	Result	Event Marker
/18/2017 8:28:00 AM	102	
/18/2017 10:54:00 AM	257	
/18/2017 2:29:00 PM	504	
/18/2017 5:47:00 PM	48	
/18/2017 9:15:00 PM	128	
/19/2017 8:10:00 AM	80	
/19/2017 11:10:00 AM	88	
/19/2017 2:04:00 PM	92	
/19/2017 5:15:00 PM	66	
/19/2017 9:11:00 PM	353	
/20/2017 8:35:00 AM	125	
/20/2017 11:30:00 AM	121	
/20/2017 4:04:00 PM	198	
/20/2017 9:16:00 PM	191	
/21/2017 7:50:00 AM	64	
/21/2017 10:59:00 AM	99	
/21/2017 2:16:00 PM	155	
/21/2017 5:14:00 PM	103	
/21/2017 9:04:00 PM	154	
/22/2017 8:03:00 AM	232	
/22/2017 10:46:00 AM	60	
/22/2017 2:14:00 PM	147	
/22/2017 5:41:00 PM	292	
/22/2017 9:14:00 PM	414	



#### Review of available CGM's



**Freestyle Libre** 





#### DexCom G6

Integrateddiabetesservices.com

#### Summary of CGM systems available

	Freestyle Libre	DexCom G6	Medtronic Guardian 3
Indicated wear life	14 days	10 days	7 days
Calibration with FSBG required	No	No	Yes
Immediate access to glucose values	Only when scanned by device	Yes	Yes
Alters/alarms	No	Yes	Yes
Trend arrows	Yes	Yes	Yes
Integration with insulin pump	No	Yes, Tandem t:slim X2	Yes, Medtronic MiniMed 670G or 630G
Integration with smart phone	Yes	Yes	Yes
Share CGM data with others	No	Yes	No

Adapted from Adolfsson, Eur Endocrinol. 2018

# Cost of CGM

- Patients who are covered by Medicare can expect to cover 20% of the costs, although this additional amount may be covered by secondary insurance. Medicare will cover the remaining 80%.
- DexCom G6
  - Box of sensors (3 sensors that last 10 days/sensor): \$349 (same as G5, though you get three sensors lasting 10 days, vs. four sensors lasting 7+ each)
  - Two transmitters: \$475 per bundle (compared to \$599 per bundle for G5)
  - Touchscreen receiver: \$365
- Freestyle Libre
  - 10-day Libre sensor \$35.99 (about \$108 per month)
  - Reader (one time purchase) \$69.99

Blood glucose test strips can cost between \$0.50-\$1/strip

### Medicare requirements to obtain CGM

The beneficiary has to meet all requirements:

- 1. Testing BG 4 or more times daily
- 2. Treated with 3 or more daily injections or using an insulin pump
- 3. Insulin regimen requires frequent adjustments
- 4. Had a visit to assess diabetes within 6 months of initiating CGM
- 5. Must have a visit every 6 months to assess diabetes



medicare.gov

# How can CGM help older patients with diabetes

- Prevention of hypoglycemia
- Reduction in hyperglycemia
- Quality of Life

# Hypoglycemia is common in older patients

- Insulin is the 2nd most frequent medication associated with ED visits in people over 65 in the US
- Hospital admissions for hypoglycemia are more common than hospital admissions for hyperglycemia in Medicare beneficiaries
- Hypoglycemia rates have been reported to be as high as 41.9% in long-term care facilities



Budnitz, Ann Intern Med. 2007

Lipska, JAMA Intern Med. 2014

Chen, J Am Geriatr Soc. 2008

#### Older patients may not react to hypoglycemia



Holt, Essential Endo and Diabetes. 2007





# The effects of hypoglycemia in older adults

- Cardiovascular events
- Cognitive dysfunction/dementia
- Falls
- Fractures
- Hospitalizations
- Increased mortality

# Hypoglycemia: A risk factor for dementia



### CNS manifestations of hypoglycemia





#### Radiopaedia

# CGM decreases hypoglycemia

- Reduced nocturnal hypoglycemia (<70 mg/dL) in T1DM on MDI by 48%
- Reduced nocturnal hypoglycemia (<54 mg/dL) in T1DM on MDI by 65%
- Reduced daytime hypoglycemia (<54 mg/dL) in T1DM on MDI by 54%

# CGM reduces hypoglycemia in older adults

- Wireless innovation for Seniors with Diabetes Mellitus (WISDM) Study
  - Patients with T1DM wore a DexCom CGM for 6 months
  - Less time with BG less than 70 mg/dL
  - Decreased episodes of severe hypoglycemia
  - 2 more hours per day in range (70-180 mg/dl) by the end of the six months vs. fingersticks
  - Benefits were noted in both insulin pump and in patients on multiple daily injections

#### CGM in patients with hypoglycemia unawareness



Choudhary, Diabetes Care. 2013

### CGM can also decrease hyperglycemia

Hyperglycemia



Charler, JCEM. 2018

#### CGM can also decrease hyperglycemia

Target range



Charler, JCEM 2018

# CGM and fear of hypoglycemia



Chamberlain, J Diabetes Sci Technol 2016

#### Quality of life with CGM

	Before Reimbursement (n = 448)	12 Months of Reimbursement (n = 362)	P Value	Effect Size <sup>°</sup>
SF-36				
Physical functioning	79.4 (21.1)	82.7 (21.2)	<0.0005	0.16
Role-physical	62.5 (27.1)	68.0 (26.8)	<0.0005	0.20
Bodily pain	71.8 (26.2)	74.4 (27.0)	0.033	0.10
General health	49.5 (21.5)	54.1 (22.5)	<0.0005	0.21
Vitality	54.5 (19.3)	57.4 (19.5)	0.003	0.15
Social functioning	70.0 (26.1)	76.3 (24.9)	<0.0005	0.24
Role- emotional	70.8 (28.1)	76.4 (26.7)	<0.0005	0.20
Mental health	65.2 (17.8)	68.8 (18.1)	<0.0005	0.20

Charler, JCEM. 2018

# What patients should CGM be used in?

- Patients who are on multiple daily injections or insulin pumps
- Patients who have a good understanding of how to adjust insulin doses/activity/food intake based on CGM data
- Patients with hypoglycemia unawareness or recurrent especially severe hypoglycemia
- Patients who meet insurance carriers requirements to receive CGM
- Patients with cognitive dysfunction, visual or hearing impairments, or dexterity problems may not benefit as much from CGM