



HSE - Medicines Management Programme (MMP) and the Preferred Blood Glucose Test Strips Initiative

- Stephen Doran, Chief I Pharmacist
 - 15th April 2023

mmp@hse.ie

www.hse.ie/yourmedicines

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The Medicines Management Programme (MMP)

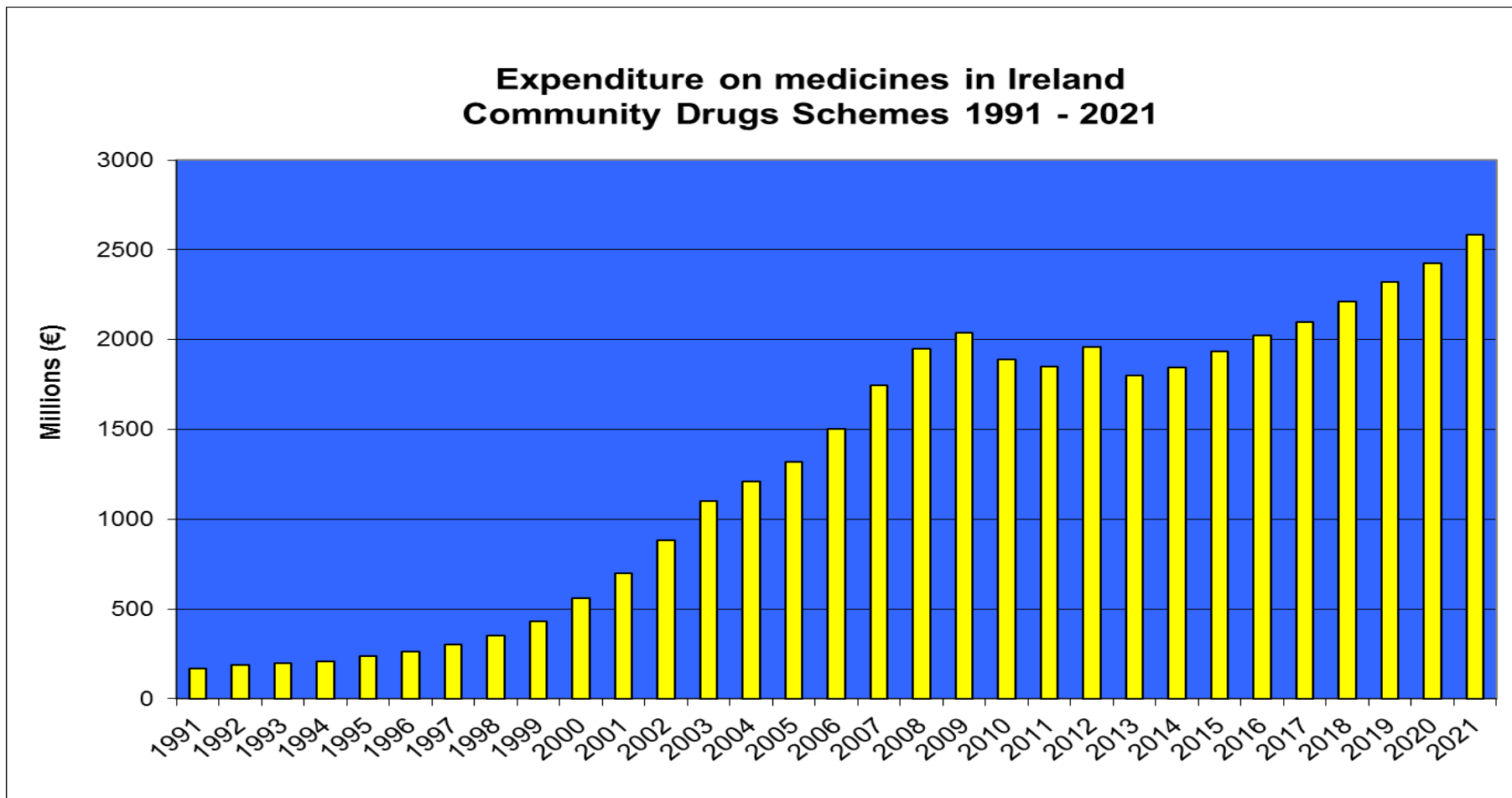
The Medicines Management Programme (MMP) was established in January 2013

Aim - Sustained National Leadership relating to:

- ✓ **Safe**
- ✓ **Effective**
- ✓ **Cost-effective prescribing**



Expenditure under the Community Drugs Schemes was approx. €2.585 billion in 2021





Areas of interest to the HSE-MMP

- The most frequently prescribed medicines
- The most expensive medicines
- Biosimilars
- Generic prescribing (safety & cost effectiveness)
- Preferred Drugs
- Inhaled medications
- DOACs
- Health Technology management (Lidocaine 5% medicated plaster - Versatis[®], Sacubitril + valsartan - Entresto[®], Rivaroxaban 2.5 mg - Xarelto[®], Liraglutide - Saxenda[®])
- Oral nutritional supplements (ONS)
- Antibiotic prescribing
- Benzodiazepine prescribing
- Reference pricing
- Appropriate prescribing of opioids in chronic non-cancer pain





Preferred Drugs

THE RIGHT CHOICE, RIGHT NOW.

MEDICINES MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

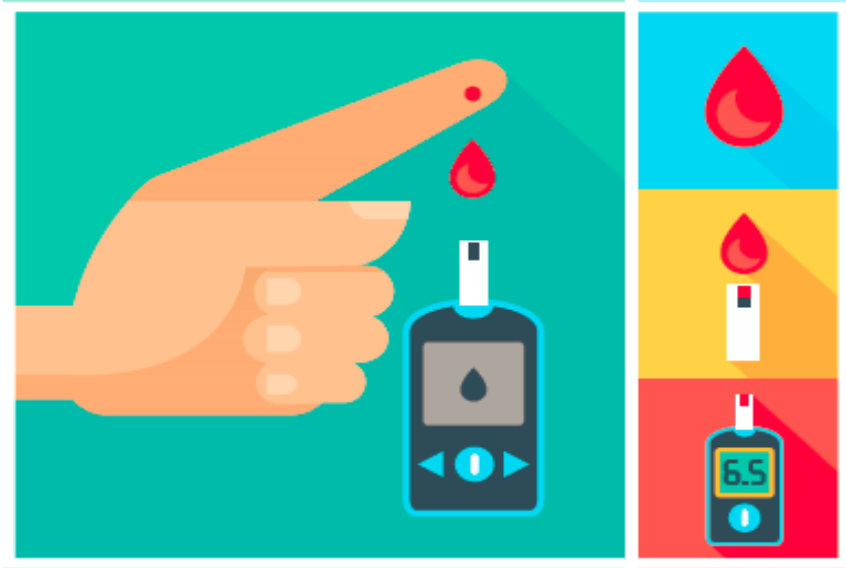
The Preferred Drugs initiative identifies a single **‘Preferred Drug’** within a therapeutic drug class, and offers prescribers useful guidance on selecting, prescribing and monitoring this drug for a particular condition.

Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme (ACE) Inhibitor	Ramipril
Angiotensin-II Receptor Blocker (ARB)	Candesartan
Beta Blocker	Bisoprolol
Calcium Channel Blocker (CCB)	Amlodipine
Oral Anticoagulant	Warfarin
Direct Oral Anticoagulant (DOAC)	Apixaban
Proton Pump Inhibitor (PPI)	Pantoprazole <small>(New 2019)</small>
Serotonin Noradrenaline Reuptake Inhibitor (SNRI)	Venlafaxine
Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor (SSRI)	Sertraline <small>(New 2021)</small>
Statin	Atorvastatin <small>(New 2020)</small>
Urology (Urinary incontinence, frequency and overactive bladder)	Tolterodine ER*



Guide to Blood Glucose (Sugar) Testing

Type 2 Diabetes



HE Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

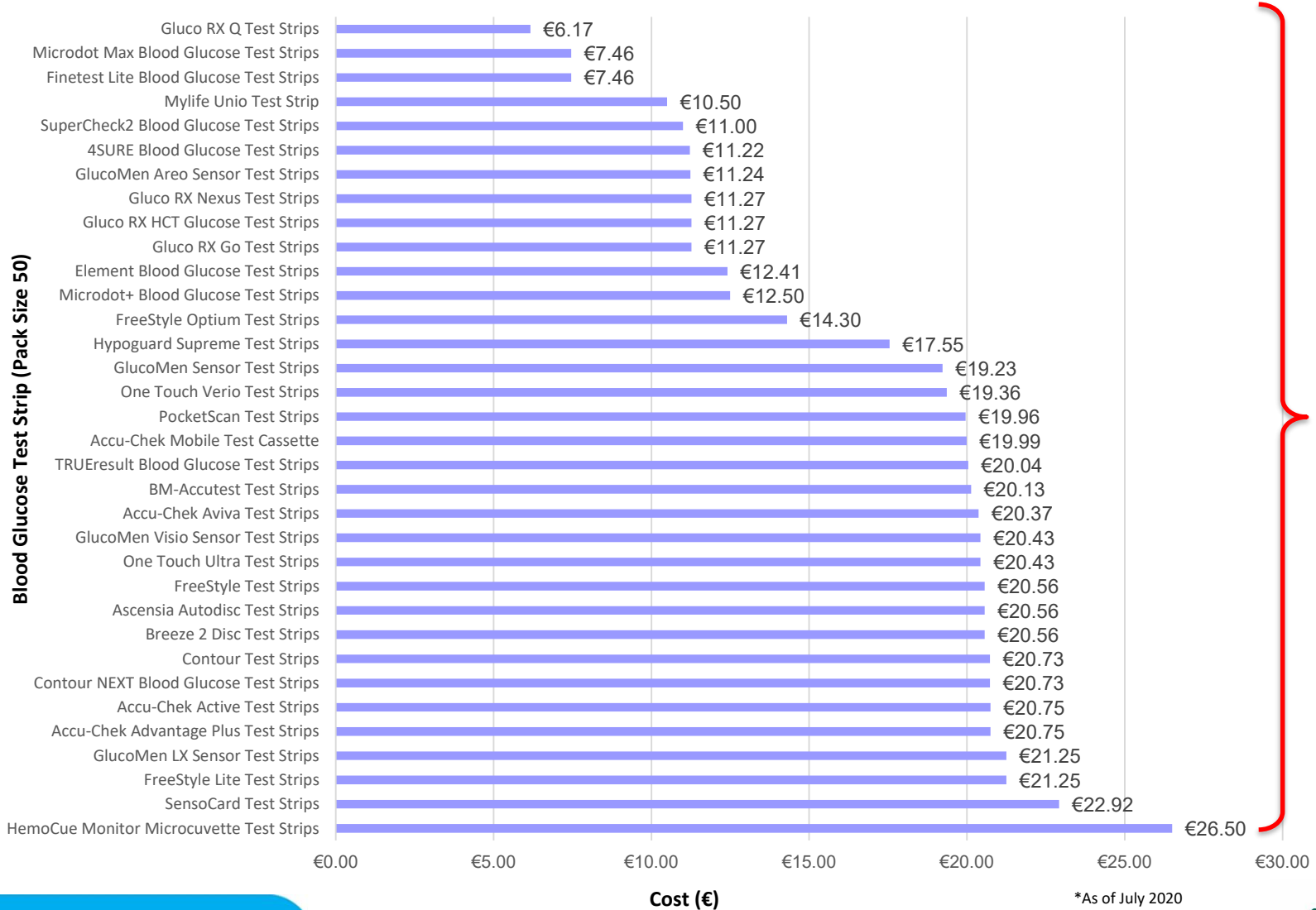


National Clinical Programme
for Diabetes





BGTS on the reimbursement list*



Supply of meters?





Preferred blood glucose test strips (BGTS)

- The aim of the initiative was to identify preferred BGTS with associated meter(s) for adult patients with type 1 and type 2 diabetes mellitus who undertake self-monitoring of blood glucose.
- Support safe, effective and cost-effective prescribing.



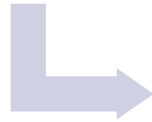


Process undertaken

Roadmap for the identification of preferred blood glucose test strips with associated meter(s)



Consultation on the evaluation process for the identification of preferred blood glucose test strips with associated meter(s)



Preferred blood glucose test strips list with associated meter(s)-February 2021



Updated preferred blood glucose test strips list with associated meter(s)-December 2021 & February 2023



Medicines Management Programme





Criteria evaluated

1. Acquisition cost of the test strips (reimbursed price)
2. Shelf-life of the test strips
3. Availability of patient support services by the supplier
4. Availability of education resources to healthcare professionals by the supplier
5. Robustness of supply of test strips to the Irish Market
6. Associated meter(s)
7. Patient factors
8. Acquisition cost of associated lancets
9. Any other relevant factors



Preferred BGTS

Preferred BGTS List

- Satisfy the criteria in the Roadmap
- A range of different suppliers to mitigate against supply risks
- A range of test strips & associated meters to cater for varying requirements of technology, Apps, smart device compatibility
- A range of meter size options and memory availability
- Meters to cater for patients with visual and manual dexterity impairment
- Meters for use with insulin pumps
- Meters for use with ketone strips

Non-Preferred BGTS

- Do not meet all the criteria as set out in roadmap
- Were not submitted for inclusion in the process so could not be assessed
- Strips (and/or meters) no longer supplied to the Irish Market



Preferred BGTS


Preferred BGTS		
Reimbursement Code	BGTS*	Reimbursement price (as of 1 st February 2023) (50)
85131	Finetest Lite blood glucose test strips	€6.95
97637	Microdot Max blood glucose test strips	€7.46
85132	Accu-Chek Instant test strips	€8.54
85110	Glucomen Areo Sensor test strips	€8.63
97630	Mylife Aveo test strips	€8.75
97607	Mylife Unio test strips	€10.50
94170	4Sure blood glucose test strips	€11.22
85120	GlucorX Nexus test strips	€11.27
85139	GlucorX HCT glucose test strips	€11.27
15963	Contour Next blood glucose test strips	€14.30
68321	One Touch Verio test strips	€14.30
10051	Freestyle Optium test strips	€14.30

Accu-Chek Mobile test cassette (Code: 85543, Price: €11.81) is now considered a list A product for existing users only.

Medicines Management Programme

Preferred blood glucose test strips with associated meter(s)

Evaluation report



Approved by	Prof. Michael Barry, Clinical Lead, Medicines Management Programme (MMP)
Date approved	February 2023
Version	Version 3
Previous versions	Version 1 (January 2021) Version 2 (December 2021)



Preferred Blood Glucose Test Strips (BGTS) for adults with type 1 and type 2 diabetes



The MMP recommends a preferred BGTS (List A) with an associated meter for:

- ✓ People who are newly diagnosed with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) and require self monitoring of blood glucose (SMBG).
- ✓ People with diabetes (type 2) where continued SMBG is recommended on review.
- ✓ People with diabetes (type 1 and type 2) changing their current meter where SMBG is recommended.

Prescribers should give due consideration to the use of preferred BGTS when commencing SMBG and when changing a meter in established patients.






















Implementation of the preferred BGTS will lead to significant savings for the HSE, in the order of millions of euros.

Preferred BGTS (List A)			Associated meters	Practice Point															
BGTS	Reimbursement			As part of diabetes care, the meter in use by patients should be reviewed regularly. If a meter has not been replaced in the previous 2 years, change to a preferred BGTS (List A) with associated meter. Meters should be registered with the company at the time of initiation of use.															
	Code	Price (as of 1 st February 2023)																	
Finetest Lite blood glucose test strips	85131	€6.95	Finetest Lite Finetest Lite Smart	Lancet Recommendation The use of a universal lancing device with lancets costing ≤€6 per 200 for all patients undertaking SMBG is recommended. <i>Note: GlucoRx lancets pack of 200 (97602) include a lancing device.</i>															
Microdot Max blood glucose test strips	97637	€7.46	Microdot Max																
Accu-Chek Instant test strips	85132	€8.54	Accu-Chek Instant	* Compatible blood ketone test strips <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Code</th> <th>Blood ketone test strip (10)</th> <th>Price</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>97605</td> <td>4Sure B-ketone strips</td> <td>€11.22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>85140</td> <td>Glucomen Areo B-ketone sensors</td> <td>€11.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>97601</td> <td>GlucoRx HCT ketone strips</td> <td>€11.27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>85106</td> <td>Freestyle Optium B-ketone strips</td> <td>€22.83</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Code	Blood ketone test strip (10)	Price	97605	4Sure B-ketone strips	€11.22	85140	Glucomen Areo B-ketone sensors	€11.24	97601	GlucoRx HCT ketone strips	€11.27	85106	Freestyle Optium B-ketone strips	€22.83
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85106	Freestyle Optium B-ketone strips	€22.83																	
Glucomen Areo Sensor test strips	85110	€8.63	Glucomen Areo Glucomen Areo 2K*																
Mylife Aveo test strips	97630	€8.75	Mylife Aveo**	** Insulin pumps There are BGTS with associated meters available on List A that have compatibility with insulin pumps (see overleaf).															
Mylife Unio test strips	97607	€10.50	Mylife Unio Neva**																
4Sure blood glucose test strips	94170	€11.22	4Sure SMART 4Sure SMART DUO*	Full evaluation report is available at: www.hse.ie/yourmedicines See overleaf for further information.															
GlucoRx Nexus test strips	85120	€11.27	GlucoRx Nexus [†] GlucoRx Nexus Blue GlucoRx Nexus Mini Ultra GlucoRx Nexus Voice [‡]																
GlucoRx HCT glucose test strips	85139	€11.27	GlucoRx HCT* GlucoRx HCT Connect*	MMP Version 3 February 2023															
Contour Next blood glucose test strips	15963	€14.30	Contour Next One Contour Next Contour Next Link 2.4**																
One Touch Verio test strips	68321	€14.30	One Touch Verio Reflect																
Freestyle Optium test strips	10051	€14.30	Freestyle Optium Neo*																
Accu-Chek Mobile test cassette (Code: 85543, Price: €11.81) is now considered a list A product for existing users only.																			
All featured BGTS come in packs of 50 strips (some as 2x25 strips) * Compatible with blood ketone testing ** Compatible with insulin pumps † 'Talking' capability ‡ This list is not exhaustive and represents information submitted to the MMP by suppliers. Refer to individual suppliers for further information. Prices listed (for preferred BGTS, blood ketone test strips) are correct as of 1 st February 2023. †Also available: GlucoRx GO (recommended for use by healthcare professionals, therefore not included overleaf)																			



Preferred BGTS (List A) with associated meters



Finetest Lite blood glucose test strips (85131) €6.95 Blood volume (µL): 0.5 Haematocrit (%): 20-65 Open pack expiry: 6 months (2x25 pack) Test range (mmol/L): 1.1-33.3		Microdot Max blood glucose test strips (97637) €7.46 Blood volume (µL): 0.5 Haematocrit (%): 0-70 Open pack expiry: 6 months Test range (mmol/L): 0.6-33.3		Accu-Chek Instant test strips (85132) €8.54 Blood volume (µL): 0.5 Haematocrit (%): 10-65 Open pack expiry: up to 21 months (expiry not affected by opening) Test range (mmol/L): 0.6-33.3		Glucomen Areo Sensor test strips (85110) €8.63 Blood volume (µL): 0.5 (glucose), 0.8 (ketone) Haematocrit (%): 10-70 (glucose), 20-60 (ketone) Open pack expiry: 12 months Test range (mmol/L): 1.1-33.3 (glucose), 0.1-8.0 (ketone)		MyLife Aveo test strips (97630) €8.75 Blood volume (µL): 0.5 Haematocrit (%): 15-70 Open pack expiry: 12 months (expiry not affected by opening) Test range (mmol/L): 0.6-33.3	
Neon Diagnostics Ltd. TO ORDER FREE METERS Phone: 1800 932 297 or Email: info@neondiagnosics.ie Patient supports: www.neondiagnosics.ie		Cambridge Sensors Ltd. TO ORDER FREE METERS Phone: 1800 211 896 or Email: sales@microdot.biz Patient supports: www.microdot.biz		Roche Diabetes Care Ltd. TO ORDER FREE METERS Phone: 1800 931 078 or Email: Burgesshill.dcacountmanagers@roche.com Patient supports: www.accu-chek.ie		Medicon Ireland Ltd. TO ORDER FREE METERS Phone: 1800 709 903 or Email: customerservice@mediconire.com Patient supports: www.mediconire.com		Ypsomed Ltd. TO ORDER FREE METERS Phone: 1800 911 522 or Email: info@ypsomed.co.uk Patient supports: www.mylife-diabetescare.com	
Finetest Lite Meter memory: 500 App: No 	Finetest Lite Smart Meter memory: 500 App: Yes, connectivity via BT 	Microdot Max Meter memory: 500 App: Yes, connectivity via BT 	Accu-Chek Instant Meter memory: 720 App: Yes, connectivity via BT 		Glucomen Areo Meter memory: 730 App: Yes, connectivity via NFC 	Glucomen Areo 2K Meter memory: 730 App: Yes, connectivity via NFC Compatible with: Glucomen Areo B-ketone sensors (85140) €11.24 	MyLife Aveo Meter memory: 1000 App: Yes, connectivity via BT Contact supplier for a list of compatible insulin pumps 		
MyLife Unio test strips (97607) €10.50 Blood volume (µL): 0.7 Haematocrit (%): 20-70 Open pack expiry: 12 months Test range (mmol/L): 0.6-33.3		4Sure blood glucose test strips (94170) €11.22 Blood volume (µL): 0.5 (glucose), 0.8 (ketone) Haematocrit (%): 0-70 (glucose), 10-70 (ketone) Open pack expiry: up to 24 months (expiry not affected by opening) Test range (mmol/L): 0.5-33.3 (glucose), 0.1-8.0 (ketone)		GlucoRx HCT glucose test strips (85139) €11.27 Blood volume (µL): 1.0 (glucose and ketone) Haematocrit (%): 0-70 (glucose), 10-70 (ketone) Open pack expiry: up to 24 months (expiry not affected by opening) Test range (mmol/L): 0.5-38.9 (glucose), 0.1-8.0 (ketone)		GlucoRx Nexus test strips (85120) €11.27 Blood volume (µL): 0.5 Haematocrit (%): 30-60 Open pack expiry: up to 24 months (expiry not affected by opening) Test range (mmol/L): 1.1-33.3			
Ypsomed Ltd. TO ORDER FREE METERS Phone: 1800 911 522 or Email: info@ypsomed.co.uk Patient supports: www.mylife-diabetescare.com		Clonmel Healthcare TO ORDER FREE METERS Phone: 1800 26 26 26 or Email: salesorders@clonmel-health.ie Patient supports: www.nipro-group.com/en-en/products		Windzor Pharma Ltd. TO ORDER FREE METERS Phone: 01 6950401 or Email: info@windzorpharma.com Patient supports: www.glucoRx.ie		Windzor Pharma Ltd. TO ORDER FREE METERS Phone: 01 6950401 or Email: info@windzorpharma.com Patient supports: www.glucoRx.ie			
MyLife Unio Neva Meter memory: 1000 App: Yes, connectivity via BT Contact supplier for a list of compatible insulin pumps 		4Sure SMART Meter memory: 1000 App: Yes, connectivity via BT 	4Sure SMART DUO Meter memory: 1000 App: Yes, connectivity via BT Compatible with: 4sure B-ketone strips (97605) €11.22 	GlucoRx HCT Meter memory: 1000 App: No 	GlucoRx HCT Connect/ Memory: Unlimited (with App) App: Yes Note: consult supplier for compatible devices 	GlucoRx Nexus Meter memory: 1000 App: No 	GlucoRx Nexus Blue Meter memory: 1000 App: Yes, connectivity via BT 	GlucoRx Nexus Mini Ultra Meter memory: 1000 App: Yes, connectivity via dongle 	GlucoRx Nexus Voice Meter memory: 450 App: No 
Accu-Chek Mobile test cassette (Code: 85543, €11.81) Now considered a list A product for existing users only. Blood volume (µL): 0.3 (approximately) Haematocrit (%): 25-55 Open pack expiry: 3 months (after opening) Test range (mmol/L): 0.6-33.3		Contour Next blood glucose test strips (15963) €14.30 Blood volume (µL): 0.6 Haematocrit (%): 0-70 Open pack expiry: up to 24 months (expiry not affected by opening) Test range (mmol/L): 0.6-33.3		One Touch Verio test strips (68321) €14.30 Blood volume (µL): 0.4 Haematocrit (%): 20-60 Open pack expiry: 6 months Test range (mmol/L): 1.1-33.3		Freestyle Optium test strips (10051) €14.30 Blood volume (µL): 0.6 (glucose), 1.5 (ketone) Haematocrit (%): 30-60 (glucose and ketone), 0.0-8.0 (ketone) Open pack expiry: use immediately (individual foil packet) Test range (mmol/L): 1.1-27.8 (glucose and ketone)			
Blue: Compatible with ketone testing Pink: 'Talking' capability Orange: Compatible with insulin Pumps Wireless connectivity: BT: Bluetooth®, NFC: Near field communication		Ascensia Diabetes Care Ireland Ltd. TO ORDER FREE METERS Phone: 1800 920 111 or Email: diabetessupport@ascensia.com Patient supports: www.diabetes.ascensia.ie		Lifescan Ireland Ltd. TO ORDER FREE METERS Phone: 1800 535 676 Patient supports: www.myonetouch.ie		Abbott Laboratories Ltd. TO ORDER FREE METERS Phone: 1800 77 66 33 or Email: adchelpuk@abbott.com Patient supports: www.freestylediabetes.ie			
Contour Next One Meter memory: 800 App: Yes, connectivity via BT 		Contour Next Meter memory: 800 App: Yes, connectivity via BT 	Contour Next Link 2.4 Meter memory: 1000 App: No Contact supplier for a list of compatible insulin pumps 	One Touch Verio Reflect Meter memory: 750 App: Yes, connectivity via BT 		Freestyle Optium Neo Meter memory: 1000 App: No Compatible with: Freestyle Optium B-ketone strips (85106) €22.83 			

This list is a guide only and is not exhaustive. It is based on information submitted to the MMP by suppliers, including individual product information. Healthcare professional clinical judgement should be used when choosing a suitable meter for individuals. Images are for illustrative purposes only. Refer to individual suppliers for further information. Prices listed (for preferred BGTS, blood ketone test strips) are correct as of 1st February 2023.

MMP Version 3
February 2023





Preferred BGTS

- The MMP recommends the use of a preferred BGTS
 - When commencing self-monitoring of blood glucose
 - When changing BGTS in people who are not currently using a preferred product.
- Choose a meter that best suits the **individual's needs** e.g. consider visual impairment, dexterity, technology needs.





Summary

- A reduction in expenditure on BGTS has been achieved:
 - Substantial proportion of this reduction was generated from the price reductions attained for some of the preferred BGTS.
 - A reduction in expenditure has also been achieved by increased utilisation of the preferred BGTS list in preference to the non-preferred BGTS list.
- There is further potential for a reduction in expenditure on BGTS by a sustained reduction in the use of the non-preferred BGTS list, in addition to using lower cost lancets.
- Review of BGTS utilisation to ensure savings are achieved.
- Continue to update the preferred list.





Diabetes mellitus utilisation & expenditure on the LTI Scheme

Year	Total expenditure	Number of people
2019	€205.99 million	143,224
2020	€223.46 million	147,452
2021	€232.90 million	151,402



Preferred BGTS (List A) with associated meters



Finetest Lite blood glucose test strips (85131) €6.95		Microdot Max blood glucose test strips (97637) €7.46		Accu-Chek Instant test strips (85132) €8.54		Glucomen Aro Sensor test strips (85110) €8.63		Mylife Aveo test strips (97630) €8.75		
Blood volume (µL): 0.5 Haematocrit (%): 20-65	Open pack expiry: 6 months (2x25 pack) Test range (mmol/L): 1.1-33.3	Blood volume (µL): 0.5 Haematocrit (%): 0-70	Open pack expiry: 6 months Test range (mmol/L): 0.6-33.3	Blood volume (µL): 0.5 Haematocrit (%): 10-65	Open pack expiry: up to 21 months (expiry not affected by opening) Test range (mmol/L): 0.6-33.3	Blood volume (µL): 0.5 (glucose), 0.8 (ketone) Haematocrit (%): 10-70 (glucose), 20-60 (ketone)	Open pack expiry: 12 months Test range (mmol/L): 1.1-33.3 (glucose), 0.1-8.0 (ketone)	Blood volume (µL): 0.5 Haematocrit (%): 15-70	Open pack expiry: 12 months (expiry not affected by opening) Test range (mmol/L): 0.6-33.3	
Neon Diagnostics Ltd. TO ORDER FREE METERS Phone: 1800 932 297 or Email: info@neondiagnosics.ie Patient supports: www.neondiagnosics.ie		Cambridge Sensors Ltd. TO ORDER FREE METERS Phone: 1800 211 896 or Email: sales@microdot.biz Patient supports: www.microdot.biz		Roche Diabetes Care Ltd. TO ORDER FREE METERS Phone: 1800 931 078 or Email: Burgesshill.dcacountmanagers@roche.com Patient supports: www.accu-chek.ie		Medicon Ireland Ltd. TO ORDER FREE METERS Phone: 1800 709 903 or Email: customerservice@mediconire.com Patient supports: www.mediconire.com		Ypsomed Ltd. TO ORDER FREE METERS Phone: 1800 911 522 or Email: info@ypsomed.co.uk Patient supports: www.mylife-diabetescare.com		
Finetest Lite	Finetest Lite Smart	Microdot Max	Accu-Chek Instant	Glucomen Aro	Glucomen Aro 2K	Mylife Aveo				
Meter memory: 500 App: No	Meter memory: 500 App: Yes, connectivity via BT	Meter memory: 500 App: Yes, connectivity via BT	Meter memory: 720 App: Yes, connectivity via BT	Meter memory: 730 App: Yes, connectivity via NFC	Meter memory: 730 App: Yes, connectivity via NFC Compatible with: Glucomen Aro B-ketone sensors (85140) €11.24	Meter memory: 1000 App: Yes, connectivity via BT Contact supplier for a list of compatible insulin pumps				
Mylife Unio test strips (97607) €10.50		4Sure blood glucose test strips (94170) €11.22		GlucoRx HCT glucose test strips (85139) €11.27		GlucoRx Nexus test strips (85120) €11.27				
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MyLife Unio Neva		4Sure SMART	4Sure SMART DUO	GlucoRx HCT	GlucoRx HCT Connect/	GlucoRx Nexus	GlucoRx Nexus Blue	GlucoRx Nexus Mini Ultra	GlucoRx Nexus Voice	
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		Compatible with: GlucoRx HCT ketone strips (97601) €11.27								
Accu-Chek Mobile test cassette (Code: 85543, €11.81)		Contour Next blood glucose test strips (15963) €14.30			One Touch Verio test strips (68321) €14.30		Freestyle Optium test strips (10051) €14.30			
<i>Now considered a list A product for existing users only.</i>		Blood volume (µL): 0.6 Haematocrit (%): 0-70	Open pack expiry: up to 24 months (expiry not affected by opening) Test range (mmol/L): 0.6-33.3			Blood volume (µL): 0.4 Haematocrit (%): 20-60	Open pack expiry: 6 months Test range (mmol/L): 1.1-33.3		Blood volume (µL): 0.6 (glucose), 1.5 (ketone) Haematocrit (%): 30-60 (glucose and ketone), 0.0-8.0 (ketone)	Open pack expiry: use immediately (individual foil packet) Test range (mmol/L): 1.1-27.8 (glucose), 0.0-8.0 (ketone)
Blood volume (µL): 0.3 (approximately) Haematocrit (%): 25-55 Open pack expiry: 3 months (after opening) Test range (mmol/L): 0.6-33.3		Ascensia Diabetes Care Ireland Ltd. TO ORDER FREE METERS Phone: 1800 920 111 or Email: diabetessupport@ascensia.com Patient supports: www.diabetes.ascensia.ie			Lifescan Ireland Ltd. TO ORDER FREE METERS Phone: 1800 535 676 Patient supports: www.myonetouch.ie		Abbott Laboratories Ltd. TO ORDER FREE METERS Phone: 1800 77 66 33 or Email: adchelpuk@abbott.com Patient supports: www.freestylediabetes.ie			
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Orange: Compatible with insulin Pumps										
Wireless connectivity: BT: Bluetooth®, NFC: Near field communication										

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