






BLOOD GLUCOSE TESTING METERS – MANUFACTURER SUPPORT FOR PRACTICES TO CHANGE TO FORMULARY METERS & STRIPS

- GP practices in Nottingham & Nottinghamshire should already be using one of the formulary meters for NEW patients.
- We are asking practices to support cost-effective prescribing by considering changing EXISTING patients to a formulary meter.
- **The companies that make the meters are offering support to help change patients over.**
- Please refer to the summary document on this topic page to see the offers of support from the 5 companies and discuss with your practice team.
- Contact details for the company reps are included in the summary document.
- **If you would like information about your current prescribing, please refer to the instructions on how to use [OpenPrescribing](#) on this topic page, or contact your ICB Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist, who will be able to help.**
- Disclaimer:
 - **Please note, Nottingham & Nottinghamshire ICB are not endorsing any particular offer of support from the companies concerned. Practices remain solely accountable and responsible for all prescribing decisions.**
 - **The companies may present other offers of support not outlined here. Practices are advised to refer to the [guidance on working with non-NHS service providers](#).**
 - **Please contact your ICB Medicines Optimisation Pharmacist for advice if needed.**
- GP practices in Bassetlaw place may also take advantage of the support offered, being mindful that the current formulary list in Bassetlaw differs from Nottingham & Nottinghamshire.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- Because of the large numbers of patients who need to access meters and strips for self-monitoring of blood glucose, it's vital we ensure that the meters have the **functionality** that is required and that the strips are **cost effective**.
- Nottingham & Nottinghamshire ICB have developed a [formulary](#) of meters, in partnership with local Diabetes Specialist Nurses, and guidance on who needs to test.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE FROM MANUFACTURERS TO HELP SWITCH PATIENTS TO FORMULARY BLOOD GLUCOSE METERS AND TESTING STRIPS

					
Meter	GLUCORX Q	FINETEST LITE	CONTOUR PLUS BLUE	PALMDOC 2	ACCU-CHEK INSTANT
Test strips	Glucorx Q (Glucorx Ltd)	Finetest Lite (Neon Diagnostics)	Contour Plus (Ascensia)	Palmdoc (NOT iCare) (Palmdoc)	Instant (Roche Diabetes Care)
	<p>Drop in clinics Practice identifies suitable patients and invites to a clinic. Gluco-Rx staff run drop-in training sessions for patients to learn how to use the new meter. Customer care number provided to patients. Meter can be sent to the patients' home with free next day delivery or can be collected from the practice.</p> <p>Full switch service Pharmalead – 3rd party Medicines Optimisation company This will require allowing access to clinical system. Identify patients suitable to switch. List signed off by GP and exclude any unsuitable patients. Text message to patients to inform of meter change and link to order new meter / meters can be collected from the practice. Repeat scripts changed.</p>	<p>Drop in clinics Practice identifies suitable patients and invites to a clinic. Neon Diagnostics staff run drop-in training sessions for patients to learn how to use the new meter. Patients given a new meter at the clinic. List given to practice of patients who have received a new meter so that repeat script can be amended.</p> <p>Full switch service Clinical Pharmacist Solutions – 3rd party Medicines Optimisation company This will require allowing access to clinical system. Identify patients suitable to switch. List signed off by GP and exclude any unsuitable patients. Text message to patients to inform of meter change. Patients can then either just collect a meter or attend a clinic to be shown how it works, including the calibration solution. Repeat scripts changed.</p>	<p>Patient Identification Tool Search tool (DOT) to identify patients who can be switched. Will also identify patients who don't need to test etc.</p> <p>Clinics These can be run in a few different ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ascensia rep to provide full training to practice staff; support to run clinics to teach patients how to use the meter; arrange for meters to be delivered to the practice. 2. Local Community Diabetes Specialist Nurse to run DOT and then invite patients in, show them how to use the meter, change repeat scripts. This will require allowing access to clinical system. 3. As above but using a 3rd party Interface Clinical Services or MorpH. 4. Ascensia pay for practice staff to do the above, to keep process in-house. 	<p>Drop in clinics Practice identifies suitable patients and invites to a clinic. Palmdoc staff run drop-in training sessions for patients to learn how to use the new meter. Patients given a new meter at the clinic. List given to practice of patients who have received a new meter so that repeat script can be amended.</p> <p>Remote switch service Practice identifies suitable patients and sends Palmdoc template letter advising them that they will be changed to a new meter. Patients contact Palmdoc representative to be sent a new meter direct to their home. Palmdoc provide weekly list of patients who have requested the new meter to the practice so that repeat script can be amended. Palmdoc can provide educational sessions and support to the practice and patients.</p>	<p>Drop in clinics Practice identifies suitable patients and invites to a clinic. Accu-chek staff run drop-in training sessions for patients to learn how to use the new meter. Patients given a new meter at the clinic. List given to practice of patients who have received a new meter so that repeat script can be amended.</p> <p>Remote switch service Practice identifies suitable patients and provides names and addresses of patients who require a new meter. Roche Diabetes Care customer services team will send a new meter direct to their homes.</p> <p>Full switch service Medacy Clinical Services – 3rd party organisation. This will require allowing access to the clinical system</p>
Contact Details	Hannah Mobbs Hannah.mobbs@glucorx.co.uk 07867 456632	Andrew Ball andrew@neondiagnosics.co.uk 07725 596643	Jeremy Wood jeremy.wood@ascensia.com 07469 912566	Helen Smithson helen@palmdoc.co.uk 07377 353732	Alison Baptie Alison.baptie@roche.com 07821 849629

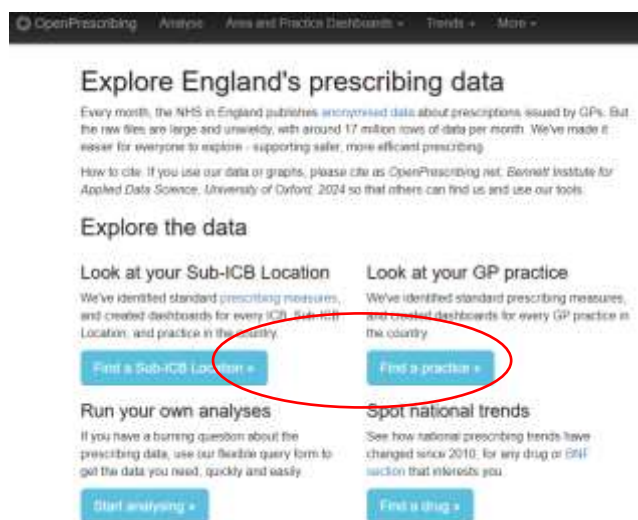
Disclaimer: Please refer to [Information for GP practices considering joint working initiative with a non NHS service provider \(e.g. sponsored nurse, external Medicines Optimisation Company\)](#) for guidance. Practices remain solely responsible and accountable for any prescribing decisions.

HOW TO USE OPENPRESCRIBING

OpenPrescribing is a resource funded by NHS England that publishes anonymised data about prescriptions issued by every GP practice in England. This data is used to create prescribing measures that can help analyse prescribing variation, monitor trends, and identify potential cost-saving opportunities. It does not require registration or a password to access.

There are webinars that demonstrate how to get the most out of [OpenPrescribing](#), but please see below for a step-by-step guide on how to find the information regarding Blood Glucose Testing Strips.

1. OpenPrescribing home page – click on “Find a practice” and type in your practice name.



2. This will take you to a home page for your practice. From here you can follow links to data for your PCN and the ICB as a whole. Click on “View all 74 measures”.

Standard measures

Our 74 standard measures compare performance across England. This is the measure where greatest potential for improvement. [View all 74 measures..](#)

3. On the drop-down menu for “Show measures categorised as:”, select “Diabetes”

Prescribing measures

We have brought together various prescribing measures to show how this organisation compares with its peers across NHS England. These are indicative only, and should be approached with caution. Each chart shows the results for the individual practice, plus deciles across all practices in the NHS in England. [Read more about measures.](#)

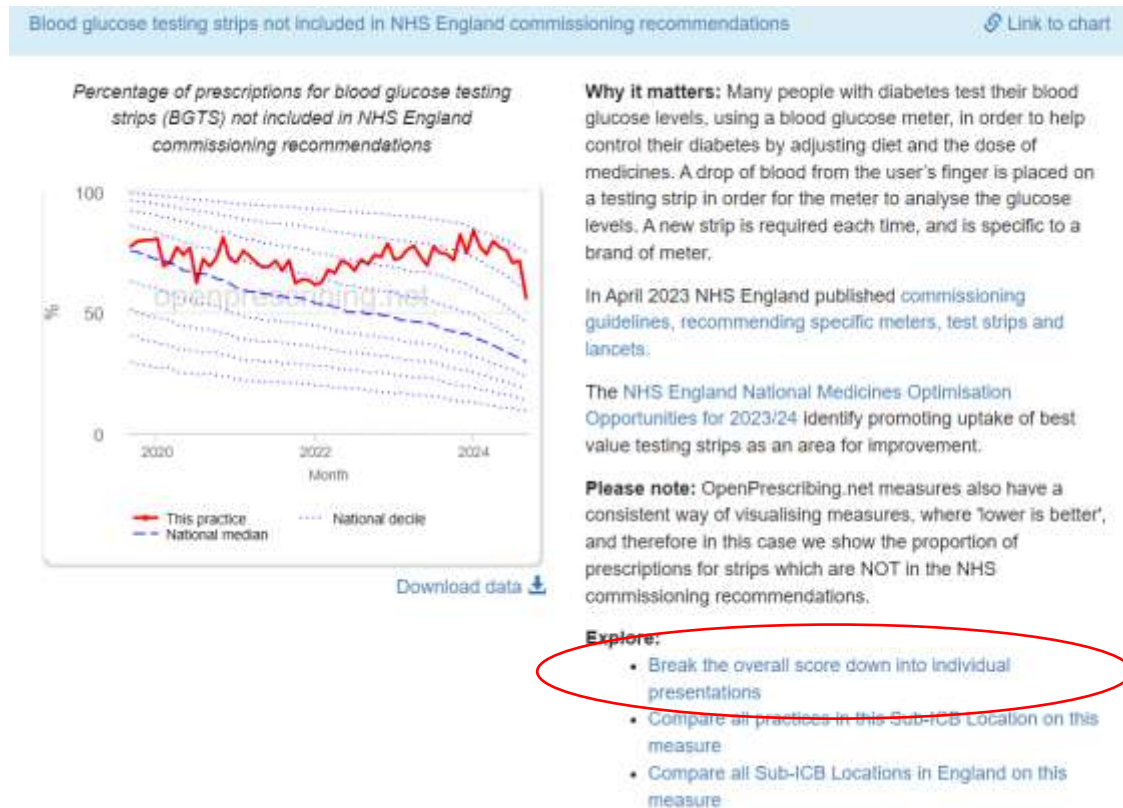
Sort prescribing measures by: Potential for improvement Potential savings

Show measures categorised as:

Diabetes

4. Scroll down to the prescribing measure “Blood glucose testing strips not included in NHS England commissioning recommendations”.

5. Here you will see a graph for your practice, showing prescribing trend compared to national data. Click on “Break the overall score down into individual presentations”. This will give you information about the products that your practice has prescribed in the most recent quarter.



6. **Please note:** Your practice may appear to be prescribing not in line with NHSE recommendations. It is important to note that 2 of our formulary meters are not yet included in the NHSE list but are still cost-effective. Please compare your prescribing data with the [Nottingham & Nottinghamshire ICB Adults Blood Glucose & Ketone Meter Formulary](#).