

FLASH GLUCOSE MONITORING

NHS UPTAKE OF **FREESTYLE LIBRE** IN PRIMARY CARE

Following **#Flash** campaigns by patient groups, **FreeStyle Libre** Flash sensors were listed on NHS Drug Tariff in November 2017.

Most areas haven't yet given GPs a green light to prescribe it.

But what does prescribing data show?

GPrX Data have produced a **Flash Briefing** to find out.

LOCAL NHS RESPONSE

In England, over **50%** of CCGs recommend that GPs **do not prescribe** Flash sensors until further guidance is issued.

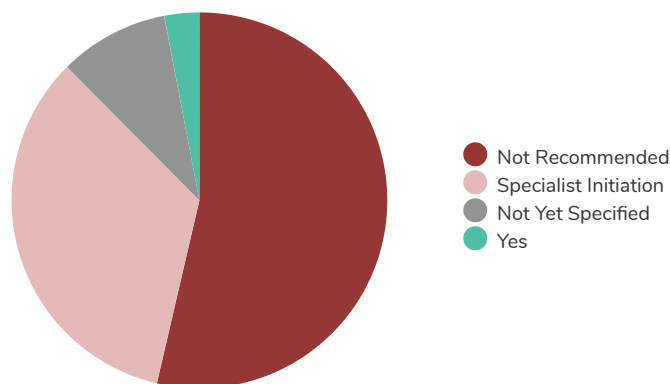
32% of CCGs allow prescribing to selected patient groups where **specialist or secondary-care initiated**.

In Wales, practices in **all Health Boards** can consider Flash as an option for patients testing eight or more times a day on a regular basis.

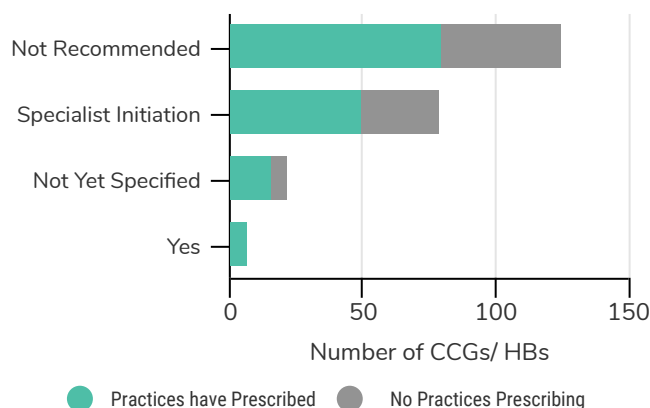
In Northern Ireland, prescribing is allowed by **all LCGs** following recommendation by a secondary care specialist.

In Scotland, a minority of Health Boards have approved Flash, 3 have not and the majority are **yet to specify**.

FORMULARY SUMMARY BY CCG/HB



PRACTICE ADHERENCE TO LOCAL CCG / HB FORMULARY



PRESCRIBING IN PRACTICE

Despite a mixed response from commissioning groups and area prescribing committees, so far FreeStyle Libre has been prescribed in practices in:

66% of CCGs in England
64% of HBs in Scotland
100% of HBs in Wales; and
100% of LCGs in Northern Ireland since November 2017.

33% of English practices prescribing FreeStyle Libre are in CCGs where prescribing is currently **not recommended**.

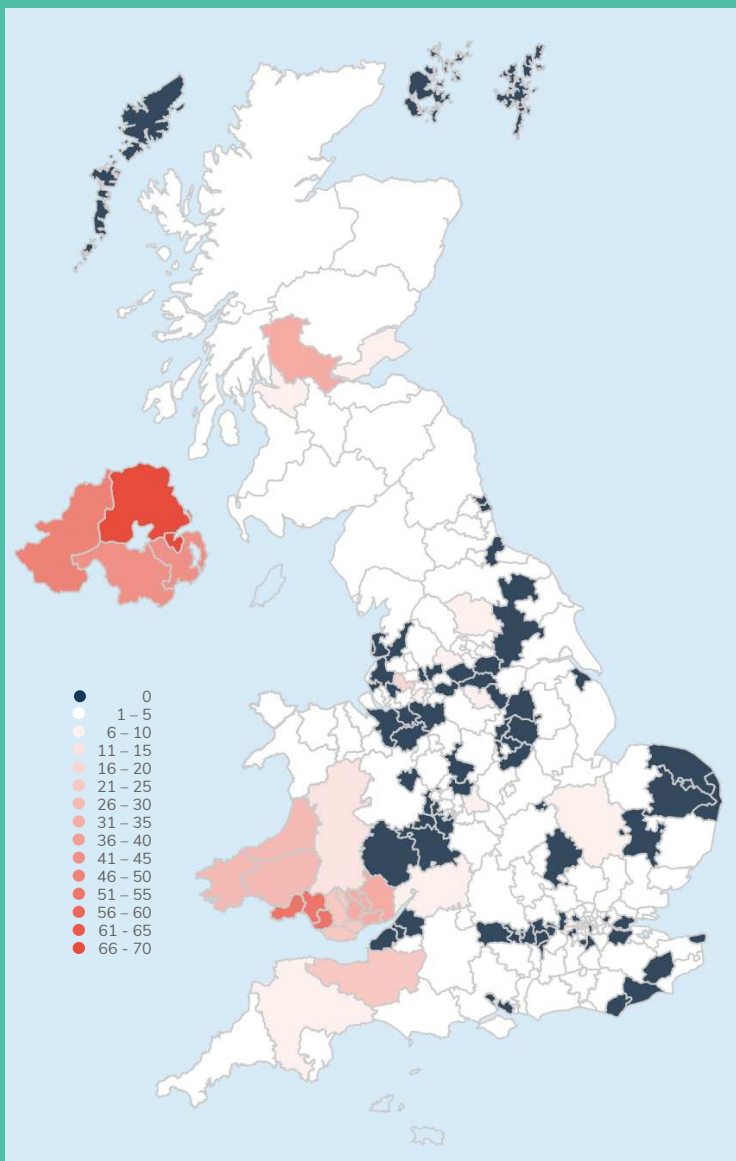
For the full **Flash Briefing** visit gprxdata.com/resources
Full details of the locations prescribing **FreeStyle Libre** are available via **GPrX Online**
For more information: hello@gprxdata.com



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PRACTICES PRESCRIBING FREESTYLE LIBRE



RESOURCE IMPACT ON STANDARD BGM

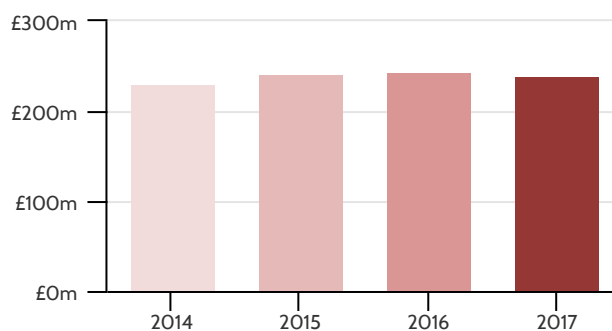
"The resource impact of using FreeStyle Libre is uncertain. If adopted, additional costs would be incurred for the purchase of readers and sensors, but the number of blood glucose testing strips needed may be reduced."

- NICE 2017 Medtech Innovation Briefing MIB110 (FreeStyle Libre).

The cost difference between FreeStyle Libre and standard monitoring has been cited at **£222** per year: £963 for FreeStyle Libre vs £741 for finger prick monitoring (NHS Tayside Primary Care Services & Medicines Advisory Group, Nov 2017).

This group noted "Uptake is anticipated to be high, though costs will be off-set by potentially averting unexpected hypoglycaemia treatments (estimated costs of £77/year) and improved glucose monitoring."

Annual UK Community Prescribing Spend on Blood Test Strips and Lancets



In data to December 2017, **880** practices across **160** CCGs and Health Boards had already prescribed the Libre sensor.

73 CCGs had no practices prescribing yet.

191 practices in **81** CCGs / Health Boards had prescribed FreeStyle Libre, despite formulary guidance **not** to prescribe.

The total UK RX spend on blood test strips and lancets in 2017 was **£239 million**, a slight decrease on 2016.

GPRX's **Flash Briefing** looks at the impact of new forms of blood glucose monitoring, like the Flash Libre monitor, on traditional BGM products.

For the full **Flash Briefing** visit gprxdata.com/resources
Updated prescriber details are live on **GPrX Online**
Contact us via hello@gprxdata.com

