

ACCESSING LIBRE – SURVEY FINDINGS

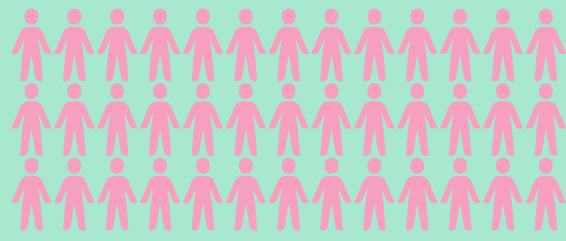
Freestyle Libre is a type of Flash Glucose Monitoring (FGM) - device that take readings from a sensor worn on the arm, which is displayed on the device or a phone app'

- It is reimbursed only for people with type 1 diabetes under 21 years in Ireland.
- **754** people took part in the survey on accessing and using Flash Glucose Monitoring (FGM) in the end of 2021.
- Responses were from:
 - People with type 1 diabetes
 - People with type 2 diabetes
 - Parents/carers
 - Healthcare professionals

WHY FREESTYLE LIBRE?

ACCORDING TO FGM USERS, IT:

- Improves their motivation to manage diabetes (**89%**)
- Makes them test more frequently (**87%**)
- Makes them feel less overwhelmed by the demands of living with diabetes (**88%**)
- Takes much less mental and physical energy each day (**87%**)
- Makes them feel that diabetes does not control their life as much as before (**75%**)
- Improves all aspects related to diabetes management when compared to finger-pricking.



FINANCIAL BURDEN

- **56%** of those who use Libre have to pay privately for the sensors (min. €120 each month)
- **64%** of those who are not using it anymore had to pay privately and the financial burden was the main reason why they had to stop.
- The main reason for not even trying Libre is its cost.

I think the Libre Freestyle is a brilliant innovation it takes the worry and mental draining out of your every day. I gave up my TV package to buy Libre Freestyle but unfortunately still could not afford it along with the monthly spend on essential medication.
(Adult, type 1 diabetes)

It plays a huge role in how I manage my diabetes, but I have to self-fund, and some months I have to choose between better diabetes management or paying bills.
(Adult, type 1 diabetes)

Unfortunately, I can't afford the Libre and would love it, it's a brilliant piece of equipment that needs to be readily accessible to diabetics, none of us asked for this terrible disease and should be giving the best chance to live our best lives with it.
(Adult, type 1 diabetes)

NO RESPECT FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS (HCP) EXPERTISE

"I only apply for patients who I feel really need it for specific reason however despite my clinical expertise it is often not accepted"
(Nurse, Diabetes Clinic)

73% of HCP respondents declared that applications they have made for individual adult patients have been rejected by the HSE, often with no reason provided.

REIMBURSEMENT

92% of Health Care Professionals
and
98% of people with diabetes believe that FGM should be reimbursed for all people with diabetes based on clinical need.



TIME FOR CHANGE

Diabetes Ireland calls to reimburse the FGM technology based on clinical need and remove the age-barrier for Freestyle Libre now

'The Freestyle Libre has changed my life, my HbA1c is the lowest it has been in 18 years because I can closely monitor changes in my sugars and identify patterns which allows me to adjust insulin dosage. Sadly, it comes with a huge cost burden, and I have to sacrifice many things in order to keep my health intact. It should be available to everyone there should not be a price tag on people's health'.
(Adult, type 1 diabetes)