

11 May 2012

Update on diabetes management products proposals

We are continuing to work through the issues raised in the very wide-ranging responses to our consultation on blood glucose testing meters and strips. I wanted to give you a brief update on where we are at, and the likely timeframes from here.

At this stage the earliest we would be in a position to announce a decision would be some time in July. I stress that this would be the earliest we could do so, and it may be later should the process take longer than anticipated. At that time, we are also likely to report back to you on how we have incorporated feedback from consultation into our decision-making. Given the enormous volume of submissions, this is likely to take the form of a summary of submission themes and key points, and how we have responded to them.

While we have been carefully analysing the consultation responses and incorporating information from them into our thinking, we have also continued to talk with diabetes patient groups, clinicians and suppliers. This ongoing dialogue is to work through issues that have been raised with the aim of reaching a decision that meets the needs of patients, clinicians and others working with people with diabetes.

You may also have seen, or be interested to know, that we have completed consultation on three other diabetes-related funding proposals for:

- (i) Accu-Chek Ketur-Test urinalysis strips;
- (ii) Intermediate-acting insulin (NovoMix 30 FlexPen) and continued full funding of Glucagen Hypokit; and
- (iii) Insulin pumps.

A decision has been made to fund Accu-Chek Ketur Test urinalysis strips, and these will be funded from 1 June 2012. We anticipate a decision to be made on NovoMix 30 and Glucagen Hypokit in June and a decision for the insulin pump proposal is likely to be made at the same time as decisions are made on test strips and meters.

We will continue to keep you informed on our progress.

Yours sincerely



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