

## FREQUENCY GUIDELINES FOR BLOOD GLUCOSE TESTING

**GENERAL CLINICAL STANDARDS:** The most common range for testing blood glucose levels is 2-6 times per day. The lower end reflects those individuals not on insulin or on a single daily injection and the higher end reflects those on more complex insulin therapy regimens. American Diabetes Association guidelines state that individuals using multiple injections of insulin or on insulin pump therapy should test their blood glucose levels 3 or more times per day. Factors that go into the practitioner's decision making process for how often a person with diabetes should test their blood glucose include the patient's age, their willingness to test, their use of insulin and their Hemoglobin A1C level.

**MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT:** Effective for dates of service on and after April 1, 2009, fees for diabetic test strips and lancets have been adjusted and the maximum monthly quantities will change to 200 per month (equaling more than 6 tests per day):

CODE	PRODUCT	QUANTITY	REFILLS	PRICE
A4253	BLOOD GLUCOSE TEST OR REAGENT STRIPS FOR HOME BLOOD GLUCOSE MONITOR, <b>PER 50 STRIPS</b>	4 (200 per month)	5	\$38.79
A4259	LANCETS, <b>PER BOX OF 100</b>	2 (200 per month)	5	\$6.56

**ORDERING:** A fiscal order for medical-surgical supplies (e.g., blood glucose test strips and lancets) **must be written for a one-month supply** with a specified number of refills. Typically test strips are packaged and billed in a quantity of 50 and lancets, 100, and should be ordered accordingly.

**MEDICAL OVERRIDE:** Although not the norm, some persons with diabetes may require testing up to 8-12 times per day (250-350 strips per month), either for a short or long term period. For orders exceeding the maximum monthly quantity, prior approval is required for all lancets and strips dispensed on and after April 1, 2009.

**REFILLS:** A fiscal order for medical-surgical supplies may be refilled when the prescriber has indicated on the order the number of refills and **the beneficiary has requested the refill**. Refills may be dispensed when one week or less remains on the current month's supply. Automatic refills are not permitted.

**DELIVERY:** The DME or Pharmacy provider must first contact the beneficiary or representative to ensure that a delivery is needed. **A signed confirmation of needed delivery shall be maintained in the patient record.**

Questions? Call the Division of Provider Relations and Utilization Management at  
1-800-342-3005 option 1.