



Chris Heaton-Harris
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Dear Constituent,

Thank you for contacting me about funding for diabetes technologies.

I absolutely agree that technology could, and should, provide vital support to people managing long term conditions, including diabetes. I know that new treatments and technologies are being created all the time, which is why I welcome the Medicines and Medical Devices Bill, which aims to keep patients safe while ensuring they have the safest and earliest possible access to new drugs and technologies.

In November 2017, FreeStyle Libre flash glucose monitors were made available on the NHS for those with Type 1 diabetes, subject to local approval. After an investigation found patients in some areas of the country were being denied access, NHS England announced it would fund the device to allow access throughout the country, in all 195 Clinical Commissioning Groups. Since April 2019, all qualifying patients have been able to receive flash glucose monitoring (or continuous glucose monitoring, CGM) from their local GP or diabetes team. This will help to make life more convenient for those with the condition while saving the NHS time and resources by preventing people becoming ill in the first place.

Technology has continued to evolve since that time. There are a number of apps to help manage diabetes, as well as new devices which establish a connection between a CGM monitor and an insulin pump to automatically give insulin when blood sugar is too high, and to stop insulin when it is too low. While these loop systems are currently unregulated, they have the potential to revolutionise the way that patients with diabetes are able to manage their health, and are a testament to the determination of scientists to support people with long term conditions.

The Integrated Review and Comprehensive Spending Reviews will conclude in the autumn and I will continue to monitor this issue closely.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY