

Medicare Coverage of Diabetic Supplies

If you are a diabetic enrolled in Medicare B and your doctor has prescribed a home blood glucose monitor, you may qualify for Medicare reimbursement for the monitor and related diabetic supplies.

Coverage

In order to qualify for reimbursement, you must be treated by a doctor for diabetes. Also, your doctor must prescribe the home blood glucose monitor and determine that you or another responsible individual are capable of being trained to operate the device. If you have a severe visual impairment, you may qualify for reimbursement of a monitor with special features.

What is Covered

If your claim is approved, Medicare will help pay for the monitor, test strips, lancets, and a spring powered device for the lancets.

The store or other supplier of your monitor, test strips, and lancets must submit a claim to Medicare for you. Medicare only pays for supplies that are provided by a Medicare supplier and they submit the claim to Medicare for you. Medicare will not pay for supplies that you purchase from a store or source that is not a registered Medicare supplier and/or for claims for supplies that you submit yourself.

If your test strips and lancets are delivered to your home, the supplier must contact you before they send more. The supplier should not automatically send them to you.

A doctor's order for test strips and lancets must be renewed every 12 months. If you use more test strips that are allowed by Medicare, keep records of how many you use. You may be able to appeal to have those strips covered by Medicare.

The following Diabetic Supplies ARE NOT covered by Medicare:

Insulin
Alcohol
Betadine
Iodine wipes

Syringes
Peroxide
Cotton swabs
Alcohol wipes

Betadine Wipes
Urine test strips
Anti-bacterial skin cleanser