

## Medicines Optimisation *Key Messages* – Bulletin 23

### Cost Effective Lancets for patient self-use

#### KEY MESSAGE: Use cost effective lancets for blood glucose testing

- Lancets are devices used to prick a patient's finger to withdraw a small amount of blood, in order to test blood glucose levels.
- **CCGs in Norfolk & Waveney** spend approx. **£254,600** on lancets per year.
- Lancets are available in different sizes; the higher the gauge, the smaller the diameter of the needle.
- A higher gauge needle is generally less painful but may not provide sufficient blood for testing.
- A number of cost effective options (**≤ £3.00/100 lancets**) are available on prescription– see *tables below and overleaf*.
- Lancets are designed to fit into proprietary finger-pricking devices (**from local experience most appear to be a universal fit for all**). These devices are not prescribable but are supplied with the blood glucose monitoring meter.
- Lancets are for single use only; **ensure patients are educated about safe disposal via sharps bin**.
- Multi-device lancets (Multiclix Roche), which contain a preloaded lancet drum, may be appropriate for certain patients i.e. those with dexterity problems, frequent testing or children where disposal of sharps may be impractical or difficult.
- **Unistik 3 safety** lancets are expensive and **should not be prescribed on FP10**. Current annual spend across Norfolk and Waveney is around **£13,000 year**. Any GPs who receive requests to prescribe these should contact their Prescribing Advisor for advice.

#### Suggested choices based on cost & optimal gauge, available on prescription

The following choices are based on **lowest cost, plus optimal gauge (30g) of needle** for comfort and sufficient blood for testing. *Other cost effective options are listed overleaf.*

Lancets - Sterile, Single-Use	Lancet Size	Pack size	Cost/pack	Cost per 100
iCare Advanced	0.38mm/30 gauge	200	£4.45	£2.23
Omican Lance Soft (B. Braun)	0.30mm/30 gauge	200	£5.45	£2.73
Glucorx (DiME)	0.31mm/30 gauge	200	£5.50	£2.75
Mylife (Ypsomed Ltd)	0.30mm/30 gauge	200	£5.50	£2.75
CareSens (Spirit Healthcare)	0.31mm/30 gauge	100	£2.95	£2.95
Microdot (Cambridge Sensors Ltd)	0.31mm/30 gauge	100	£3.00	£3.00

#### How to implement changes

- **Newly diagnosed** patients with diabetes: **If appropriate, use cost effective blood glucose test strips (see Key Message Bulletin 22) in combination with cost effective choice of lancets.**
- **Existing patients** using lancets: Consider switching to a more cost effective choice as listed above or overleaf (*even if meter /BGTS cannot be changed*). *Only switch patients on Multi-device lancets (i.e. Multiclix, Fastclix), if no specific need for this type.*
- If a patient is switched **remember to take the previous product off repeat.**
- Ensure that quantities on prescription are appropriate and in line with frequency of testing (i.e. should match quantities and frequency of ordering of blood glucose test strips).

# Lancets cost comparison

<£3.00/100
>£3.00/100
>£4.00/100
Preferred size/gauge

Lancets - Sterile, Single-Use	Size	Pack	Cost	per 100
Droplet (HTL-STREFA S.A.)	0.20mm/33 gauge	100	£2.19	£2.19
	0.31mm/30 gauge	100	£2.19	£2.19
	0.36mm/28 gauge	100	£2.19	£2.19
palmdoc iCare Avanced (Zachary Isaac Ltd)	0.38mm/30 gauge	200	£4.45	£2.23
Apollo twist (Apollo Medical Technologies Ltd)	0.36mm/28 gauge	200	£4.50	£2.25
AgaMatrix Ultra-Thin Lancets (AgaMatrix Europe Ltd)	0.35mm/28 gauge	200	£5.43	£2.72
Omnican Lance Soft (B.Braun Medical Ltd)	0.30mm/30 gauge	200	£5.45	£2.73
Glucoject Lancets PLUS (A. Menarini Diagnostics)	0.20mm/33 gauge	200	£5.50	£2.75
GlucoRx Lancets (GlucoRx Ltd)	0.31mm/30 gauge	200	£5.50	£2.75
Mylife lancets (Ypsomed Ltd)	0.3mm/30 gauge	200	£5.50	£2.75
Mylife multicolour (Ypsomed Ltd)	0.3mm/30 gauge	200	£5.50	£2.75
FastClix (Roche Diagnostics)	0.3mm/30 gauge	204	£5.90	£2.89
Unilet Eco (Owen Mumford Ltd)	0.375mm/28 gauge	100	£2.99	£2.99
Milward Steri-Let (Entaco)	0.36mm/28 gauge	200	£5.70	£2.85
	0.66mm/23 gauge	200	£5.70	£2.85
Vitrex Soft (Vitrex Medical Ltd)	0.65mm/23 gauge	200	£5.70	£2.85
TRUEplus Lancets (Nipro Diagnostics)	0.32mm/30 gauge	100	£2.90	£2.90
	0.195mm/33 gauge	100	£2.90	£2.90
CareSens (Spirit Healthcare Ltd)	0.31mm/30 gauge	100	£2.95	£2.95
	0.36mm/28 gauge	100	£2.95	£2.95
Microdot (Cambridge Sensors Ltd)	0.31mm/30 gauge	200	£6.00	£3.00
Greenlan Lancets (Neon Diagnostics Ltd)	0.35mm/28 gauge	200	£6.00	£3.00
IME-DC (Arctic Medical Ltd)	0.3mm/30 gauge	100	£3.00	£3.00
Advocate (Diabetes Care Technology Ltd)	0.31mm/30 gauge	100	£2.95	£2.95
VivaChek Lancets (JR Biomedical Ltd)	0.37mm/28 gauge	100	£2.99	£2.99
BD Micro-Fine + (Becton Dickinson)	0.30mm/30 gauge	200	£6.13	£3.07
	0.20mm/33 gauge	100	£3.16	£3.16
Dario (Farla Medical Ltd)	0.31mm/30 gauge	100	£3.45	£3.45
Vitrex Gentle (Vitrex Medical Ltd)	0.36mm/28 gauge	200	£6.13	£3.07
Unilet ComforTouch (Owen Mumford Ltd)	0.375mm/28 gauge	200	£7.07	£3.52
AgaMatrix Ultra-Thin Lancets (AgaMatrix Europe Ltd)	0.20mm/33 gauge	200	£7.17	£3.59
Glucoject Lancets PLUS (A. Menarini Diagnostics)	0.20mm/33 gauge	100	£3.77	£3.77
Glucoject Lancets Nodol (A. Menarini Diagnostics)	0.315mm/30 gauge	100	£3.71	£3.71
MediTouch (Medisana Healthcare (UK) Ltd)	0.34mm/28 gauge	100	£3.60	£3.60
GlucoDock Lancets (Medisana Healthcare UK Ltd)	0.35mm/28 gauge	100	£3.60	£3.60
Mendor Discreet (Merck Serono Ltd)	0.32mm/28 gauge	100	£3.61	£3.61
FreeStyle (Abbott Labs Ltd)	0.5mm/28 gauge	200	£7.44	£3.72
BGStar Ultra-Thin Lancets (Sanofi)	0.20mm/33 gauge	100	£3.65	£3.65
SykFeel Ultra-Thin Lancets (Sanofi)	0.20mm/33 gauge	100	£3.65	£3.65
Microlet (Bayer Diagnostics)	0.5mm/28 gauge	200	£7.44	£3.72
OneTouch Comfort (LifeScan UK)	0.20mm/33 gauge	200	£7.63	£3.82
Thin Lancets (Abbott Labs Ltd)	0.36mm/28 gauge	200	£7.67	£3.84
OneTouch UltraSoft (LifeScan UK)	0.4mm/28 gauge	100	£3.81	£3.81
OneTouch Delica (Lifescan UK)	0.32mm/30 gauge	200	£5.85	£2.93
Softclix (Roche Diagnostics Ltd)	0.4mm/28 gauge	200	£7.93	£3.97
Softclix XL (Roche Diagnostics Ltd)	0.8mm/21 gauge	50	£1.99	£3.98
GlucoRx Safety Lancets (GlucoRx Ltd)	1.6mm/30 gauge	100	£5.50	£5.50
	1.8mm/28 gauge	100	£5.50	£5.50
	1.8mm/26 gauge	100	£5.50	£5.50
	2.2mm/23 gauge	100	£5.50	£5.50
Microdot Lite (Cambridge Sensors Ltd)	1.8mm/28 gauge	200	£10.75	£5.38
Microdot Professional (Cambridge Sensors Ltd)	2.2mm/23 gauge	200	£10.75	£5.38
Microdot SuperLite (Cambridge Sensors Ltd)	1.8mm/30 gauge	200	£10.75	£5.38
Microdot Universal (Cambridge Sensors Ltd)	1.8mm/26 gauge	200	£10.75	£5.38
Multiclix (Roche Diagnostics)	0.3mm/30 gauge	204	£9.93	£4.97
Starsted Safety Lancets	1.6mm/28 gauge	200	£10.92	£5.46
	1.8mm/21 gauge	200	£10.92	£5.46
	1.8/18 gauge	200	£10.92	£5.46
Sterilance Lite II Safety Lancets (Spirit Healthcare Ltd)	1.8mm/18 gauge	100	£5.70	£5.70
	1.8mm/21 gauge	100	£5.70	£5.70
	1.8mm/26 gauge	100	£5.70	£5.70
	1.8mm/28 gauge	100	£5.70	£5.70
	2.4mm/21 gauge	100	£5.70	£5.70
	2.4mm/26 gauge	100	£5.70	£5.70
Apollo Pressure-Activated Safety Lancets (Apollo Medical Technologies Ltd)	1.8mm/26 gauge	100	£5.99	£5.99
	1.8mm/28 gauge	100	£5.99	£5.99
	2.4mm/21 gauge	100	£5.99	£5.99
Mylife Safety lancets (Ypsomed Ltd)	2.4mm/23 gauge	100	£5.99	£5.99
	0.36mm/28 gauge	200	£12.00	£6.00
	0.32mm/30 gauge	200	£12.00	£6.00
Unistik Gentle (Owen Mumford Ltd)	1.5mm/30 gauge	200	£12.00	£6.00
Unistik 3 Extra (Owen Mumford Ltd)	2.0mm/21 gauge	200	£12.34	£6.17
Unistik 3 Normal (Owen Mumford Ltd)	1.8mm/23 gauge	200	£12.34	£6.17
Unistik 3 Comfort (Owen Mumford Ltd)	1.8mm/28 gauge	200	£12.34	£6.17

<b>Title</b>	KEY MESSAGES Bulletin 23 Cost Effective Lancets for Patient self-use
<b>Description of policy</b>	<i>To inform healthcare professionals</i>
<b>Scope</b>	<i>Prescribing information related to lancets used for blood glucose testing.</i>
<b>Prepared by</b>	Prescribing & Medicines Management Team (LS) in conjunction with Specialist Diabetes Nurse (JW)
<b>Impact Assessment</b> (Equalities and Environmental)	<p><i>Please indicate impact assessment outcome:</i>  <i>Positive impact</i>  <i>Adverse impact - low - action plan completed as per guidance</i>  <i>Adverse impact - medium - action plan completed as per guidance</i>  <i>Adverse impact - high - action plan completed as per guidance</i>  <i>No impact</i></p> <p><b>No policy will be approved without a completed equality impact assessment</b></p>
<b>Evidence base / Legislation</b>	<p>Level of Evidence:  <i>A. based on national research-based evidence and is considered best evidence</i>  <b>B. mix of national and local consensus</b>  <i>C. based on local good practice and consensus in the absence of national research based information.</i></p>
<b>Dissemination</b>	Is there any reason why any part of this document should not be available on the public web site? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes / No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Approved by</b>	<i>Norfolk &amp; Waveney Prescribing Reference Group V1.0 (6.6.13) V2.0 (19.6.14) Senior Prescribing &amp; Medicines Management Team</i>
<b>Authorised by</b>	<i>Norfolk &amp; Waveney Drug &amp; Therapeutics Commissioning Group V1.0 (20.6.13)</i>
<b>Review date and by whom</b>	December 2017 Prescribing & Medicines Management Team
<b>Date of issue</b>	Dec 2016

### Version Control (To be completed by policy owner)

Version	Date	Author	Status	Comment
0.2	7.1.13	Prescribing & MM Team & (LS&MC) & Specialist Diabetes Nurse (JW)	Draft	E mailed to Network Group for comments.
0.3	11/1/13	Prescribing & MM Team & (LS&MC) & Specialist Diabetes Nurse (JW)	Draft	IME-DC(Arctic Medical Ltd) deleted from cost effective choices based on cost of corresponding BGTS and needles.
0.4	12.1.13	Prescribing & MM Team & (LS&MC) & Specialist Diabetes Nurse (JW)	Draft	Key messages bullet point 4 amended statement about universal fit. Icare and caresens N added to suggested choice table. How to implement changes – amended wording
0.5	1/2/13	Prescribing & MM Team & (LS&MC) & Specialist Diabetes Nurse (JW)	Draft	Updated cost comparison with Feb 13 Drug Tariff. iCare added.
0.6	4/2/13	Prescribing & MM Team & (LS&MC) & Specialist Diabetes Nurse (JW)	Draft	How to implement changes- further wording amendments.
0.7	18.2.13	Prescribing & MM Team & (LS&MC) & Specialist Diabetes Nurse (JW)	Draft	Amended with comments from Prescribing Ref. Group: Title change, Unistik 3 info changed, safe disposal advice added.

0.8	6.3.13	Prescribing & MM Team & (LS&MC) & Specialist Diabetes Nurse (JW)	Draft	Amended with further comments from Network group re: safety lancets.
0.9	10.4.13	Prescribing & MM Team & (LS&MC) & Specialist Diabetes Nurse (JW)	Draft	New logo added.
0.91	12.6.13	Prescribing & MM Team & (LS&MC) & Specialist Diabetes Nurse (JW)	Draft	Ratified by Prescribing Ref Group with minor amendments 6.6.13
1.0	25.6.13	Prescribing & MM Team & (LS&MC) & Specialist Diabetes Nurse (JW)	FINAL	Ratified by Drug & Therapeutics Commissioning Group 20.6.13
1.1	6.9.13	Prescribing & Medicines Management Team & (LS&MC)	Update	Cost comparison updated with Sept 13 Drug Tariff prices. New product Omnican Lance soft added as new product. Ratified by Prescribing Senior Team
1.2	16.6.14	Prescribing & Medicines Management Team & (LS&MC)	Update	Cost comparison updated with June 14 Drug Tariff prices. New product Sarsted safety lancets added. New NEL CSU template. Ratified by Senior Prescribing & Medicines Management Team
2.0	19.6.14	Prescribing & Medicines Management Team & (LS&MC)	FINAL	
2.1	11.12.14	Prescribing & Medicines Management Team & (LS&MC)	Update	NHS Norfolk and Waveney changed to CCGs in Norfolk and Waveney. Cost comparison updated Nov 14 Drug tariff
2.2	6/11/15	Prescribing & Medicines Management Team & (LS&MC)	Update	Cost comparison updated Nov 15 Drug tariff. Updated spend figure. Spend on unistiks added. In-version amendment to Glucoject lancets- re. pack size 200 and gauge
2.3	13/12/16	Prescribing & Medicines Management Team & (LS&MC)	Update	Updated lancets cost –comparison table – droplet and Vivachek lancets added.