

### **Red hub guide when seeing patients with diabetes (info for PCN CDs)**

In Derbyshire and across the UK we are seeing people with type 2 diabetes and Covid present in unusual ways, and with dangerous levels of blood ketones at only slightly high blood glucose levels. DKA can present with Covid-like symptoms.

It is therefore recommended that all people with diabetes have a blood glucose (BG) check, and if BG higher than 12 check a blood ketone.

Both tests can be done on the same meter, but this has led to SEAs where the clinician put in the wrong strip and then acted on the wrong result. At UHDB and my own practice, we now always use different meters. However, when advising a person with type 1 to have a blood ketone meter at home, we would suggest they check BG and ketones on the same meter for convenience.

I would advise printing off the attached guides and sticking onto the front of each box at the red hub for easy reference.

**How to obtain meters** (although your practice nurses may already have spare at the practice)

**For blood ketone meters:** Glucomen Areo 2K on 0800 243667 or Caresens Dual on 0800 881 5423.

**For blood glucose meters:** Wavesense Jazz on 0800 093 1812 or Tee2+ on 0800 881 5423

They can be sent directly to the red hub.

All meters are equally good and are on the Derbyshire formulary.

The glucose meters come with free 25 strips. You will need to buy in the ketone strips.

Any questions/queries:

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