



TRICARE  
MANAGEMENT  
ACTIVITY

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
HEALTH AFFAIRS  
SKYLINE FIVE, SUITE 810, 5111 LEESBURG PIKE  
FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA 22041-3206

February 18, 2009

Dear TRICARE Beneficiary,

I am writing to inform you of recent changes to the Department of Defense (DoD) TRICARE Pharmacy Program Uniform Formulary. On October 24, 2008, the Director, TRICARE Management Activity approved recommendations from the DoD Pharmacy & Therapeutics (P&T) Committee for the Self-Monitoring Blood Glucose Systems test strips and lancets. The DoD P&T Committee selected the most clinically effective and cost effective blood glucose test strips for inclusion on the Uniform Formulary (Tier 2) and designated other products as non-formulary (Tier 3).

Your medication history indicates that you are or have used diabetic supplies recently. **I encourage you to talk to your health care provider about using one of the formulary test strips (Tier 2) listed in the table on the enclosed page titled "List of Blood Glucose Test Strips"**. Non-formulary (Tier 3) test strips remain available to you, but at a higher co-pay of \$22 (unless you are on Active duty). TRICARE will not cover a non-formulary test strip for Active duty service members.

Based on the review of these products, the manufacturers of the Uniform Formulary test strips are offering one free blood glucose meter per patient. Please see the details of this additional benefit on the enclosed page titled "Special Note for Blood Glucose Test Strip Users".

Previously through TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy (TMOP), Becton-Dickinson Ultra Fine II was the *only* lancet available. These lancets did not fit many of the auto-injectors used by our beneficiaries. In an effort to better meet the needs of our beneficiaries and to preserve pharmacy dollars, beginning March 18, 2009, many popular brands (including Becton-Dickinson Ultra Fine II lancets) will be available through TMOP. Submit a valid prescription for the specific lancets you desire and receive a 90 day supply at the \$9 co-pay. For a list of popular brands available, see the enclosed page titled "List of Available Lancets at TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy".

For questions, call TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy customer service at 1-866-363-8667 or call TRICARE Retail Pharmacy customer service at 1-866-363-8779. We at TRICARE are proud to serve our nation's military heroes and their families and are committed to providing them the world's best health care.

Sincerely,

Elder Granger  
Major General, MC, USA  
Deputy Director, TRICARE Management Activity

Over

## List of Blood Glucose Test Strips

**Co-pays Changes Effective March 18, 2009**

### Formulary (Tier 2) Products

**Co-pay = \$9**

Accu-chek Aviva (for Accu-chek Aviva meter)  
 Ascensia Contour (for Ascensia Contour meter)  
 Freestyle Lite (for Freestyle Lite and Freestyle Freedom Lite meters)  
 Precision Xtra (for Precision Xtra meter)

### Non-Formulary (Tier 3) Products \*

**Co-pay = \$22**

Accu-chek Advantage	Keynote
Accu-chek Comfort Curve	Microdot
Accu-chek Compact Plus	Nexgen
Accu-chek Complete	Nova Max
Advance Test Strips	One Touch II test Strips
Advocate Test Strips	One Touch Test Strips
Ascensia Autodisc	One Touch Fast Take
Ascensia Breeze 2	One Touch Surestep
Ascensia Elite	One Touch Ultra Test Strips
Ascensia Simplicity	Optium
Assure	Pocket Chem EZ
Assure 3	Precision Pcx
Assure 4	Precision Pcx Plus
Assure II	Precision Point of Care
Assure Pro	Precision Q-I-D
BD test Strips	Precision Sof-Tact
Bionime Rightest Test Strips	Prestige Smart System
Blood Glucose 3 Test	Prestige Test Strips
Chemstrip BG	Prodigy
Clever Chek Test Strips	Prodigy Autocode
Control	Prodigy Voice
Control AST	QuickTek
Dextrostix Reagent	Sure Chek test Strips
EasyGluco	Surestep
Easypro	Surestep Pro
Freestyle Test Strips	Test Strip
Glucofilm	Tracer BG
Glucolab	Trackease
Glucometer Dex	TrueTrack
Glucometer Elite	True Track Smart System
Glucose Test Strips	Ultima
Glucostix	Ultima Relion
Glucostix Reagent	Uni-Check
	ValuStrip

**\* Plus any other test strip not included under the \$9 co-pay listed above**

## Special Note for Blood Glucose Test Strip Users

### Free Blood Glucose Meter

Are you currently using one of the Non-formulary test strips? Would you like to upgrade to a newer Formulary meter at no cost? If so, see the details below.

Call the manufacturers listed below, your local Military Treatment Facility pharmacy, or clinic for information on how to upgrade to a new no-cost formulary meter.

Phone or internet:

#### **Ascensia Contour**

To receive one free meter:

Phone - 1-800-348-8100 (Hours of Operation: 24 hours daily, 7 days per week)

Website - [www.bayerdiabetes.com/us](http://www.bayerdiabetes.com/us)

To receive a free meter using the website, click on the “home” tab then click on “Contour”

#### **Precision Xtra, Freestyle Lite or Freestyle Freedom Lite meter**

To receive one of these three meters:

Phone - 1-866-224-8892, (Hours of Operation: 8am-10pm EST, Mon-Fri)

Email – [OrderFulfillment@abbottcustomercare.com](mailto:OrderFulfillment@abbottcustomercare.com)

Website - [www.Meters.AbbottDiabetesCare.com](http://www.Meters.AbbottDiabetesCare.com)

All orders shipped FedEx overnight. Orders received by 1pm EST will be received by the customer on the next day.

#### **Accu-chek Aviva**

To receive one free meter:

Phone - 1-800-858-8072 (Hours of Operation: 24 hours daily, 7 days per week)

Website - [www.accu-chek.com](http://www.accu-chek.com)

## List of Available Lancets at TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy

Co-pays Changes Effective March 18, 2009

### Formulary (Tier 2) Products \*

Co-pay = \$9

Accu-chek Multiclix Lancets (for Accu-chek Aviva meter)  
Ascensia Microlet Lancets (for Ascensia Contour meter)  
Freestyle Lancets (for Freestyle Lite and Freestyle Freedom Lite meters)  
Medisense Thin Lancets (for Precision Xtra meter)  
One Touch Ultrasoft Lancets  
One Touch Suresoft Lancets  
Lifescan Fine Point Lancets  
Lifescan Unistik 2 Lancets  
BD Ultra Fine Lancets  
Sofclix Lancets  
Soft Touch Lancts  
Soft Touch Safe-T-Pro  
Monoject Blood Lancet

\* **At Retail, the lancets listed above and more are available**