

## Case Study

Sandwell and West Birmingham CCG achieves significant savings on blood glucose test strip spend<sup>1</sup>



### Situational Analysis...

In 2018, recognising the variation in prescribing for blood glucose monitoring products, Sandwell and West Birmingham Clinical Commissioning Group (SWBCCG) undertook a comprehensive market review with the view to simplifying its formulary and developing prescribing guidelines for healthcare professionals. This review was part of a Pan Birmingham project managed by the Diabetes Medicines Management Advisory Group.

### Change Process...

All manufacturers of blood glucose monitoring products were invited to submit their products for inclusion in the review process. At the time the SWBCCG's average unit price (AUP) for blood glucose test strips was approx. £11.17, slightly higher than the national average of £10.45, weighting was allocated based on its relevance to clinical care and patient outcomes.

As a national provider of blood glucose test strips and meters to the NHS, Spirit Healthcare submitted the following products for inclusion, CareSens Dual meter, CareSens PRO test strips and KetoSens ketone strips for type 1 diabetes patients and the TEE2+ meter and blood glucose strips for type 2 patients. Both Spirit products were approved and included within the new prescribing guideline, with the TEE2+ system being the preferred first choice for patients with Type 2 diabetes.

### Active Implementation...

Following approval of the new guidelines and providers, a prescribing change process was initiated across 84 primary care practices and secondary care trusts. Spirit offered SWBCCG support by way of

an Active Implementation team consisting of dedicated nurses and pharmacists. With the practices consent, the Implementation team audited the patient database and identified patients who were suitable for CareSens Dual and TEE2+ products respectively, as well as those patients that were not suitable for change. As a value-added service Spirit identified patients that were miscoded and/or were due a medication review.

### Adoption Rate...

# 60%

A 60% adoption rate was achieved across Spirit's CareSens and TEE2 products.

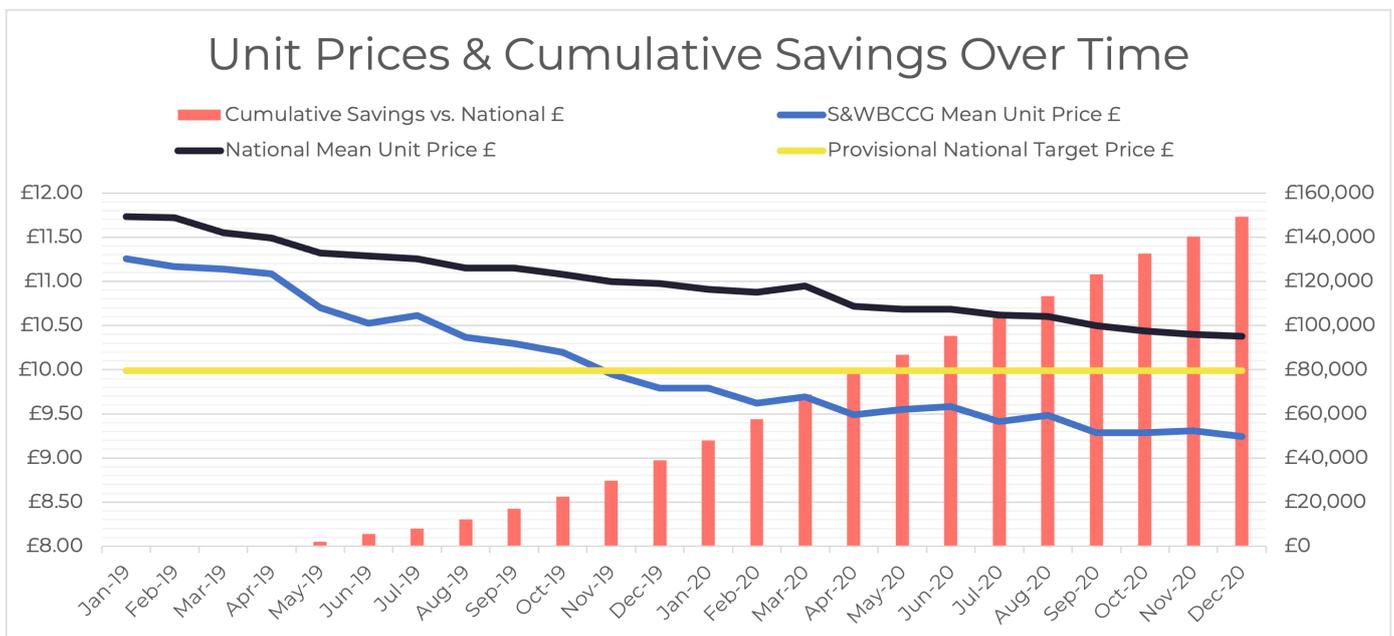
## Stepwise Approach...

- 1 Practice data audited to identify suitable patients for the TEE2+/CareSens Dual
- 2 Patients identified were validated by the practice prior to any prescription change
- 3 Patients were invited for training on new device and an update on diabetes education
- 4 Prescription changed and database updated

## Delivering Sustainable Results...

Following the Spirit Active Implementation process, which started in December 2018, SWBCCG has seen a consistent downward trend in the AUP of its total spend on blood glucose test strips, from £11.17 to a current AUP of £9.24 (Dec-20 data), a saving of 18% per pack.

This is over £1 per pack cheaper than the national average of £10.45 and is the 8th lowest across all CCGs in England.



References: 1. data on file Spirit Healthcare

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