

Appendix A: FreeStyle Libre Comparison Table

	FreeStyle Libre 1[®]	FreeStyle Libre 2[®]
Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ FreeStyle Libre 1[®] sensors were added to the N.Ireland Drug Tariff on 1st November 2017. ➤ Eligible patients have been prescribed FreeStyle Libre 1[®] sensors since early December 2017, when the pathway was established. ➤ FreeStyle Libre 1[®] sensors will continue to be available as normal during this transition period. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ FreeStyle Libre 2[®] sensors were added to the N.Ireland Drug Tariff on 1st November 2020. ➤ Patients currently prescribed FreeStyle Libre 1[®] sensors will be switched in primary care to FreeStyle Libre 2[®] sensors. ➤ FreeStyle Libre 2[®] sensors are available to order from the manufacturer https://www.freestylelibrepharmacyportal.co.uk/ ➤ See pathway section of table below for new patients commenced on FreeStyle Libre 2[®] system.
Functionality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ FreeStyle Libre 1[®] is a flash glucose monitoring (FGM) system which measures glucose levels, using interstitial fluid levels rather than capillary blood glucose from finger prick testing. ➤ It consists of a handheld reader and a sensor, which is sited on the back of the upper arm. When the reader unit is passed over the sensor, the reader shows a reading based on interstitial fluid glucose levels. The sensor lasts for up to 14 days and then needs to be replaced. ➤ The reader can show a trace for the last 8 hours and displays an arrow showing the direction the glucose reading is heading. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The FreeStyle Libre 2[®] system operates in exactly the same way as the FreeStyle Libre 1[®] system. ➤ It has additional and optional alarm functions e.g. to alert for hypoglycaemia or hyperglycaemia. ➤ FreeStyle Libre 2[®] has an algorithm update, improving accuracy. ➤ This means no confirmatory finger pricks required for insulin dosing – even when glucose is low, falling, or rapidly changing. (Finger pricks are required if glucose readings and alarms do not match symptoms or expectations)
Cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ FreeStyle Libre 1[®] sensors are the same price as FreeStyle Libre 2[®] sensors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ FreeStyle Libre 1[®] sensors are the same price as FreeStyle Libre 2[®] sensors.

	FreeStyle Libre 1[®]	FreeStyle Libre 2[®]
Reader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The FreeStyle Libre 1[®] reader is not available on prescription but is supplied direct from the manufacturer. ➤ Patients can only use the Freestyle Libre 1[®] reader to scan the Freestyle Libre 1[®] sensors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The FreeStyle Libre 2[®] reader is not available on prescription but is supplied direct from the manufacturer. ➤ Patients who wish to use a reader device to scan will require a new FreeStyle Libre 2[®] reader, to use with the FreeStyle Libre 2[®] sensor. ➤ Patients who use a reader device to scan their sensor should order their new FreeStyle Libre 2[®] reader from the manufacturer AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. ➤ Patients can only use the Freestyle Libre2[®] reader to scan the Freestyle Libre 2[®] sensors.
Librelink app	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Some patients, rather than using the reader device, use a FreeStyle LibreLink app on their smart phone to scan the sensor. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Patients can continue to use their app to scan FreeStyle Libre 2[®] sensors. ➤ Patients do not need to download a new app. ➤ The app will automatically update to the latest version (2.5) to enable additional functionality of the FreeStyle Libre 2[®] system.
Pathway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ There has been no change to the current FreeStyle Libre pathway. Only eligible patients with Type 1 diabetes can be initiated on the FreeStyle Libre system by secondary care clinicians. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ From January 2021, NEW patients, who are eligible under the current pathway to commence using FreeStyle Libre[®] will be initiated on the new FreeStyle Libre 2[®] system. ➤ These patients will be provided with training by Trusts and they will also be provided with the FreeStyle Libre 2[®] reader ➤ As before, GPs will be written to by secondary care clinicians to advise that their patient has been commenced on the system and to request for their FreeStyle Libre 2[®] sensors to be prescribed in primary care.