

Continuous Glucose Monitor Access for Medicaid Beneficiaries Living with Diabetes: State-By-State Coverage

Diabetes is the eighth leading cause of death in the United States.¹ Individuals with diabetes are more likely to experience serious complications such as kidney disease, lower limb amputations, and heart and vascular issues.² These disease-related complications are a major reason why health care costs for people with diabetes are up to 4.4 times higher than for those without diabetes.³ Diabetes disproportionately affects Medicaid beneficiaries when compared to the general population,⁴ pointing to a critical role for Medicaid agencies in improving diabetes care and outcomes.



Continuous Glucose Monitors Support Better Diabetes Management and Improve Health Outcomes

Continuous glucose monitors (CGMs) are the standard of care for people with type 1 diabetes, and a recommended tool for people with type 2 diabetes on any form of insulin.^{5,6} In contrast to fingerstick blood glucose monitoring, which is limited to point-in-time blood sugar status, CGMs provide continuous data on glucose levels to support better diabetes management. Studies demonstrate that CGMs can: (1) improve clinical quality, health outcomes, and quality of life; (2) reduce health care costs; and (3) support broader efforts by state Medicaid agencies and their partners to address disparities and related health inequities.^{7,8,9,10}

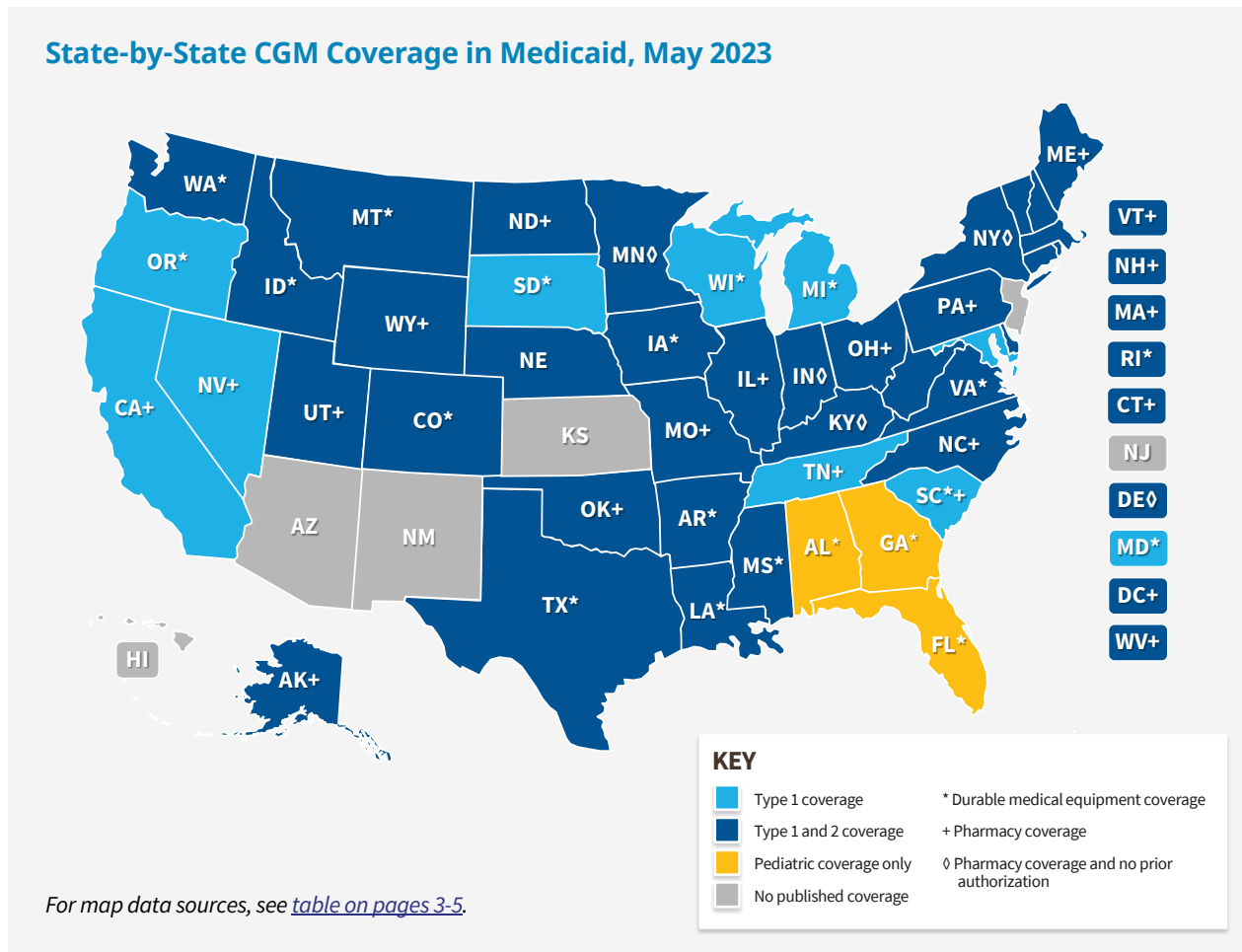
What is a CGM? A CGM is a medical device including a sensor, transmitter, and monitoring system that automatically tracks glucose levels continually and as often as every five minutes. The sensor is inserted by the patient just beneath the skin, typically on the arm or stomach, and connected to a transmitter that sends information to a monitor. It is either attached to an insulin pump that triggers an insulin injection when needed or transmits information to a separate handheld device or smartphone app.

Medicaid CGM Coverage Landscape

Compared to people with commercial insurance, Medicaid beneficiaries experience higher rates of poor diabetes management, worse glycemic outcomes, more barriers to care, and more complications related to diabetes.^{11,12,13} Expanding access to CGMs is a key way for states to improve diabetes care and reduce inequities.

As of May 2023, 45 states and D.C. provide some level of CGM fee-for-service coverage (see map, next page) as compared to 40 states in December 2021. However, there is no consistent Medicaid CGM policy across states. Published CGM coverage varies significantly by state related to eligible patients, prior authorizations and required documentation, eligible prescribers, and benefit classification.

Since the Center for Health Care Strategies published an [initial analysis of Medicaid CGM coverage](#) in early 2022, states have taken additional steps to reduce barriers to CGM access for Medicaid beneficiaries.



Key updates as of May 2023 include:

- Newly Published Fee-for-Service Coverage:** Six states published some level of fee-for-service CGM coverage: Alaska, Florida, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oregon, and Tennessee. States with fee-for-service coverage now total 45 states and D.C.
- Pharmacy vs. Durable Medical Equipment Benefit:** Three states classified CGMs as a pharmacy benefit versus a durable medical equipment benefit: Alaska, Indiana, and Nebraska. States with a CGM pharmacy benefit now total 19 states and D.C. This benefit enables patients who already access pharmaceuticals through a pharmacy to avoid navigating the requirements of another entity.
- Removal of Prior Authorization:** Five states have removed prior authorization for CGMs under their pharmacy benefit program: Delaware, Indiana, Kentucky, New York, and Minnesota. This provides patients with more timely access to CGMs and reduces the paperwork burden for providers.
- No Published Fee-for-Service Coverage:** Five states do not have published fee-for-service CGM coverage: Arizona, Kansas, New Jersey, New Mexico, and Hawaii. In these states, CGMs may be covered by medical necessity or as a value-added service voluntarily provided by a managed care organization.

State-by-State CGM Coverage in Medicaid: Map Data Sources

STATE	SOURCE (ACCESSED MAY 1, 2023)
Alabama	Alabama Medicaid. Criteria Checklist Continuous Glucose Monitoring. https://medicaid.alabama.gov/documents/4.0_Programs/4.3_Pharmacy-DME/4.3.16_DME_PA_Checklists/4.3.16_01-46_Public_Checklist_Glucose_Monitor_10-7-22.pdf . October 2022.
Alaska	Alaska Medicaid. Preferred Drug List. https://health.alaska.gov/dhcs/Documents/pdl/Documents/PDL_REV_20220601.pdf . June 2022.
Arizona	Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System. AHCCCS Pharmacy Information. https://www.azahcccs.gov/Resources/GuidesManualsPolicies/pharmacyupdates.html . April 2023. Accessed May 1, 2023
Arkansas	Arkansas Department of Human Services-Division of Medical Services. Official Note to Health Care Providers- Prosthetics Providers https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/rules/continuous-glucose-monitors/ . January 2022. Accessed May 1, 2023
California	California Department of Health Care Services. Medi-Cal RX Provider Manual. https://medi-calrx.dhcs.ca.gov/cms/medicalrx/static-assets/documents/provider/forms-and-information/manuals/Medi-Cal_Rx_Provider_Manual.pdf . May 2023. Accessed May 1, 2023
Colorado	Colorado Department of Health Care Policy & Financing. Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies Billing Manual. https://hcpf.colorado.gov/DMEPOS-manual#Therapeutic%20Continuous%20Glucose%20Monitor%20(CGM)%20Benefit%20Coverage . Accessed May 1, 2023
Connecticut	Connecticut Husky Health. Provider Policies & Procedures. https://www.huskyhealthct.org/providers/provider_postings/policies_procedures/Continuous_Glucose_Monitors_Policy.pdf . January 2023.
Delaware	Delaware Medicaid. Delaware Medicaid Preferred Drug List (PDL). https://medicaidpublications.dhss.delaware.gov/docs/DesktopModules/Bring2mind/DMX/API/Entries/Download?Command=Core_Download&EntryId=940&language=en-US&PortalId=0&TabId=94 . April 2023.
District of Columbia	District of Columbia Department of Health Care Finance. Pharmacy Diabetic Supply List. https://dc.fhsc.com/downloads/providers/DCRx_Diabetic_Supply_Program_Listing.pdf . October 2022.
Florida	Florida Agency for Health Care Administration. Florida Medicaid Health Care Alert. http://www.icontact-archive.com/archive?c=227375&f=11179&s=13873&m=862685&t=850d8a08f66cb5c2e1e49656573dbe0caeb447b39b9d192096e732cbe37425f5 . March 2023.
Georgia	Georgia Department of Community Health. Part II: Policies and Procedures for Durable Medical Equipment Services. https://www.mmis.georgia.gov/portal/Portals/0/StaticContent/Public/ALL/HANDBOOKS/Durable%20Medical%20Equipment%20Manual%20-%20204-2023%20-%20Revised%20to%20remove%20B9002%2020230412165346.pdf . April 2023.
Idaho	Idaho Medicaid. Idaho Medicaid Provider Handbook Suppliers https://www.idmedicaid.com/Provider%20Guidelines/Suppliers.pdf . November 2022.
Illinois	Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services. Illinois Medicaid Preferred Drug List. https://hfs.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/hfs/sitecollectiondocuments/PDL04012023.pdf . April 2023. Accessed May 1, 2023
Indiana	Indiana Health Coverage Programs. Indiana Health Coverage Programs bulletin. https://www.in.gov/medicaid/providers/files/bulletins/BT2022119.pdf . December 2022.
Iowa	Iowa Department of Health and Human Services. Clinical Criteria-DME-006-Continuous Glucose Monitoring. https://hhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/Continuous_Glucose%20Monitoring_10.19.22.pdf . October 2022.
Kentucky	Kentucky Department for Medicaid Services. Fee-for-Service Provider Notice 249. https://kyportal.magellanmedicaid.com/public/client/static/kentucky/documents/KY-ProviderNotice-249-20201201.pdf . December 2020.
Louisiana	Louisiana Department of Health. Informational Bulletin 22-23. https://ldh.la.gov/assets/docs/BayouHealth/Informational_Bulletins/2022/IB22-23.pdf . August 2022.

FACT SHEET • Continuous Glucose Monitor Access for Medicaid Beneficiaries Living with Diabetes: State-By-State Coverage

STATE	SOURCE (ACCESSED MAY 1, 2023)
Maine	Maine Department of Health and Human Services. Maine 2021 Preferred Diabetic Supply Listing. http://mainecarepdl.org/sites/default/files/ghs-files/additional-pdl-news-info/2021-08-06/me-july-2021-pdsl.pdf . July 2021.
Maryland	Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Maryland Medical Assistance Program General Provider Transmittal No.83. https://health.maryland.gov/mmcp/MCOupdates/Documents/pt_%2008-17.pdf . October 2016.
Massachusetts	Massachusetts Masshealth. The Prescriber E-Letter. https://www.mass.gov/doc/issue-3-july-2021/download . July 2021. Massachusetts Masshealth. Guidelines for Medical Necessity Determination for Diabetes Management Devices: Continuous Glucose Monitoring Systems and Insulin Pumps. https://www.mass.gov/doc/guidelines-for-medical-necessity-determination-for-diabetes-management-devices-continuous-glucose-monitoring-systems-and-insulin-pumps-0/download . July 2022.
Michigan	Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Medical Services Administration Bulletin MSA 19-04. https://www.michigan.gov/-/media/Project/Websites/mdhhs/Folder3/Folder63/Folder2/Folder163/Folder1/Folder263/MSA_19-04.pdf?rev=d598bd243d37452d9d267b87491fa2e9 . March 2019.
Minnesota	Minnesota Department of Health and Human Services. Diabetic Equipment and Supplies. https://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?IdcService=GET_DYNAMIC_CONVERSION&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased&dDocName=DHS16_144501 . March 2023.
Mississippi	Mississippi Division of Medicaid. Title 23: Division of Medicaid Administrative Code Change Log. https://medicaid.ms.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Admin.-Code-Change-Log-as-of-7.1.22.pdf . July 2022.
Missouri	Missouri Department of Social Services. Missouri Health Net SmartPA Criteria Proposal. https://dss.mo.gov/mhd/cs/pharmacy/pdf/cgm-clinical-edit.pdf . March 2023.
Montana	Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services. Montana Healthcare Programs Notice. https://medicaidprovider.mt.gov/docs/providernotices/2021PN/TherapeuticContinuousGlucoseMonitorDevices11022021.pdf . November 2021.
Nebraska	Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. Provider Bulletin 22-22. https://dhhs.ne.gov/Medicaid%20Provider%20Bulletins/Provider%20Bulletin%2022-22.pdf . December 2022.
Nevada	Nevada Department of Health and Human Services. Diabetic Supply Policy Changes for Nevada Medicaid Announcement 2061. https://www.medicaid.nv.gov/Downloads/provider/web_announcement_2061_20191230.pdf . December 2019.
New Hampshire	New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. New Hampshire Medicaid Pharmacy Program. https://nhcontent.magellanmedicaid.com/Downloads/provider/NHRx_notification_20220422.pdf . April 2022.
New York	New York State Department of Health. Update to New York State Medicaid Coverage of Continuous Glucose Monitors. https://newyork.fhsc.com/downloads/providers/NYRx_provider_notification_20220208.pdf . April 2022.
North Carolina	North Carolina Medicaid Division of Health Benefits. NC Medicaid Outpatient Pharmacy Prior Approval Criteria Systems (CGM) and Related Supplies. https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/therapeutic-cgm/open . April 2022.
North Dakota	North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services- Medical Services Division. Pharmacy Drug Coverage Policy Manual. http://www.hidesigns.com/assets/files/ndmedicaid/NDPDL.pdf . January 2023.
Ohio	Ohio Department of Medicaid. 2023 Preferred Diabetic Supply List. https://pharmacy.medicaid.ohio.gov/sites/default/files/OH_January_2023_PDSL_v1.pdf#overlay-context=drug-coverage . January 2023. Ohio Department of Medicaid. Pharmacy Provider Manual Billing Procedure Guide. https://pharmacy.medicaid.ohio.gov/sites/default/files/20230329_Provider_Manual_FINAL.pdf#overlay-context=pharmacy-billing-information . April 2023.
Oklahoma	Oklahoma Health Care Authority. Diabetic Supplies for Pharmacy. https://oklahoma.gov/ohca/providers/types/pharmacy/diabetic-supplies-for-pharmacy.html#CGM . March 2023.

STATE	SOURCE (ACCESSED MAY 1, 2023)
Oregon	Oregon Health Authority Health Evidence Review Commission. Coverage Guidance: Continuous Glucose Monitoring in Diabetes Mellitus. https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HPA/DSI-HERC/EvidenceBasedReports/CG-CGM-DM-2017.pdf . August 2017.
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania Department of Human Services. Provider Quick Tips #248. https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Quick-Tips/Documents/PROMISEQuickTip248.pdf . May 2020.
Rhode Island	Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services. Coverage Guidelines for Durable Medical Equipment. https://eohhs.ri.gov/ProvidersPartners/ProviderManualsGuidelines/MedicaidProviderManual/DME/CoverageGuidelinesforDurableMedicalEquipment.aspx . March 2023.
South Carolina	South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. Healthy Connections Medicaid Pharmacy Services Provider Manual. https://provider.scdhhs.gov/internet/pdf/manuals/pharm/Manual.pdf . March 2023.
South Dakota	South Dakota Department of Social Services. South Dakota Medicaid Billing and Policy Manual- Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies. https://dss.sd.gov/docs/medicaid/providers/billingmanuals/Professional/Durable_Medical_Equipment.pdf . March 2023.
Tennessee	Tennessee Division of TennCare. Tennessee CoverRx Covered Drug List. https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tenncare/documents/coverrx_druglist.pdf . February 2023. Tennessee Department of Revenue. Sales and Use Tax Notice- Blood Glucose Meter, Diabetic Supplies and Nebulizers. https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/revenue/documents/notices/sales/sales15-26.pdf . May 2015.
Texas	Texas Medicaid and HealthCare Partnership. Diabetic Equipment and Supplies Benefits to Change for Texas Medicaid January 1, 2023. https://www.tmhp.com/news/2022-12-30-diabetic-equipment-and-supplies-benefits-change-texas-medicaid-january-1-2023 . December 2022.
Utah	Utah Department of Health. Utah Medicaid Pharmacy Prior Authorization Request Form. https://medicaid.utah.gov/pharmacy/priorauthorization/pdf/Continuous%20Glucose%20Monitor%20(CGM).pdf . May 2023.
Vermont	Department of Vermont Health Access. Continuous Glucose Monitors. https://dvha.vermont.gov/sites/dvha/files/doc_library/Continuous%20Glucose%20Monitoring%20.pdf . October 2021.
Virginia	Department of Medical Assistance Services- Virginia's Medicaid Program. Medicaid Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Supplies Listing. https://www.dmas.virginia.gov/media/5504/appendix-b-diabetic-products-f2f-january-2023.pdf . January 2023.
Washington State	Washington State Health Care Authority. Health Technology Clinical Committee Findings and Decision. https://www.hca.wa.gov/assets/program/cgm-final-findings-decision-20180318.pdf . March 2018.
West Virginia	State of West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources Bureau for Medical Services. Office of Pharmacy Services Prior Authorization Criteria Continuous Glucose Monitors Prior Authorization Request Form. https://www.hca.wa.gov/assets/program/cgm-final-findings-decision-20180318.pdf . September 2021.
Wisconsin	Wisconsin Department of Health Services. BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid Handbook Area: Disposable Medical Supplies. https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/WIPortal/Subsystem/KW/Print.aspx?ia=1&p=1&sa=16&s=3&c=11&nt= . May 2023.
Wyoming	Wyoming Department of Health. Wyoming Medicaid Preferred Drug List (PDL). http://www.wyomedicaid.org/sites/default/files/ghs-files/pdl/2023-03-14/pdl32223.pdf . March 2023.

ABOUT THE CENTER FOR HEALTH CARE STRATEGIES

The Center for Health Care Strategies (CHCS) is a policy design and implementation partner devoted to improving outcomes for people enrolled in Medicaid. We support partners across sectors and disciplines to make more effective, efficient, and equitable care possible for millions of people across the nation. For more information, visit www.chcs.org.

ENDNOTES

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. “Diabetes Basics.” Updated April 24, 2023. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/basics/diabetes.html>.

² B.P. Ng, S.S. Sundar, A. Lanza, B. Smith, and P.Zing. “Medical Expenditures Associated with Diabetes Among Adult Medicaid Enrollees in Eight States.” *Preventing Chronic Disease*, 15 (2018). Available at: https://www.cdc.gov/pccd/issues/2018/18_0148.htm.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Centers for Disease Control & Prevention. “Diabetes Prevention Recognition Program for CDC-Recognized Organizations.” Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/prevention/pdf/ta/Implementation-Guide-Medicaid.pdf>.

⁵ D. Deiss, A. Szadkowska, D. Gordon, A. Mallipedhi, I. Schutz-Fuhrmann, E. Aguilera, et al. “Clinical Practice Recommendations on the Routine Use of Eversense, the First Long-Term Implantable Continuous Glucose Monitoring System. *Diabetes Technology & Therapeutics*, 21(5) (2019): 254-264. Available at: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31021180/>.

⁶ American Diabetes Association Professional Practice Committee. “7. Diabetes technology: Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes—2022.” *Diabetes Care*, 45(1) (2022): S97-S112. Available at: https://diabetesjournals.org/care/issue/45/Supplement_1.

⁷ T.R. Gilbert, A. Noar, O. Blalock, and W.H. Polonsky. “Change in Hemoglobin A1c and Quality of Life with Real-Time Continuous Glucose Monitoring Use by People with Insulin-Treated Diabetes in the Landmark Study.” *Diabetes Technology & Therapeutics*, 23(1) (2021):S35- -39. Available at: <https://www.liebertpub.com/doi/pdf/10.1089/dia.2020.0666>.

⁸ M. Fokkert, P. van Dijk, M. Edens, E. Barents, J. Mollema, R. Slingerland, et al. “Improved well-being and decreased disease burden after 1-year use of flash glucose monitoring (FLARE-NL4).” *BMJ Open Diabetes Res Care*, 7(1) (2019): 1-10. Available at: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31875133/>.

⁹ J.R. Frank, D. Blissett, R. Hellmund, and N. Virdi. “Budget Impact of the Flash Continuous Glucose Monitoring System in Medicaid Diabetes Beneficiaries Treated with Intensive Insulin Therapy.” *Diabetes Technol Ther*, 23 (2021): S36-S44. Available at: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34546079/>.

¹⁰ A.F. Walker, K.K. Hood, M.J. Gurka, S.L. Filipp, C. Anez-Zabala, N. Cuttriss, et al. “Barriers to Technology Use and Endocrinology Care for Underserved Communities With Type 1 Diabetes.” *Diabetes Care*, 44(7) (2021): 1480-1490. Available at: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34001535/>.

¹¹ O. Ebekozi, O. Odugbesan, N. Riales, S. Majidi, N-H.Y. Jones, and M. Kamboj. “Equitable Post-COVID-19 Care: A Practical Framework to Integrate Health Equity in Diabetes Management. *JCOM*, 27(6) (2020): 256-259. Available at: <https://cdn.mdedge.com/files/s3fs-public/issues/articles/jcom02706256.pdf>.

¹² S. Majidi, O. Ebekozi, N. Noor, S.K. Lyons, R. McDonough, K. Gandhi, et al. “Inequities in Health Outcomes in Children and Adults With Type 1 Diabetes: Data From the T1D Exchange Quality Improvement Collaborative.” *Clinical Diabetes*, 39(3) (2021): 278-283. Available at: <https://clinical.diabetesjournals.org/content/39/3/278.full>.

¹³ N. Noor, O. Ebekozi, L. Levin, S. Stone, D.P. Sparling, R. Rapaport, et al. “Diabetes Technology Use for Management of Type 1 Diabetes Is Associated With Fewer Adverse COVID-19 Outcomes: Findings From the T1D Exchange COVID-19 Surveillance Registry.” *Diabetes Care*, 44(8) (2021): e160-e162. Available at: <https://care.diabetesjournals.org/content/44/8/e160.full>.