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T:SLIM X2 INSULIN PUMP



Up till now, if a patient with diabetes had an insulin pump without Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM), the only way to get this feature was to purchase a whole new pump. Now for the first time, **Tandem Diabetes Care (San Diego, CA)** has created a way for patients to add a significant new feature to their pumps without having to buy a new piece of hardware.

Unique offering

Tandem has a unique offering. Firstly, their t:slim X2 insulin pump can be integrated with the Dexcom G5® Mobile Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) and is the only available insulin pump that has this capability. So there is less need for the patient to prick their finger to test blood glucose levels. Secondly, the pump is operated using a touchscreen, a feature that people increasingly expect.

The power of the touchscreen

There is another significant breakthrough. Tandem is the only company that is offering

customers a way to remotely update features on their pump. When the Tandem / Dexcom G5 combination was approved by the FDA, existing t:slim X2 users were able to use a personal computer to add CGM integration to their pumps from home in about 10 – 15 minutes, at no additional cost.

David Ahn, MD, specializes in Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism at the **UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica, CA** agrees that these are major steps forward.

“Combining the Tandem Diabetes insulin pump with the Dexcom unit is a significant breakthrough”, he says, “and the option to download software updates also offers a major advantage for the patient.”

“The benefits of combining pump therapy with CGM are well-documented, and the Dexcom G5 is the only integrated CGM approved for insulin dosing.”

David Kruger, MSN

There are other features that he likes. “Using a touchscreen is what people are used to with other devices, such as smartphones and touchpads and what people naturally expect these days from a sophisticated device.” Another feature the t:slim X2 shares with smartphones is a rechargeable battery that lasts up to 5 days per charge.

David Kruger, MSN, APN-BC, BC-ADM is a Certified Nurse Practitioner at the **Henry Ford Health System in Detroit, MI** and has worked with numerous diabetes patients in all the years that she has worked in the field. She comments that control of the disease has come a long way since the early 1980’s. Even though, today there are still patients who have to take a blood sample four or more times a day. This is a tedious process, to say the least, and the combination of sensor and pump makes a world of difference for the patient.

“Combining the Tandem Diabetes insulin pump with the Dexcom CGM unit through a simple remote software update is a significant breakthrough.”

David Ahn, MD

No longer do they have to draw blood at each meal or snack time, as the sensor allows for blood glucose levels to be monitored continuously. Instead, the Dexcom G5 CGM only requires 2 finger sticks per day for calibration and prior to meals. The reported level can be entered into the pump together with the anticipated intake of carbohydrates. From these inputs, the appropriate amount of insulin is delivered to the patient based on settings that are programmed into the device. This has revolutionized life for the diabetic,

and Davida adds that many of her patients could not imagine treating their condition without this combination of sensor and pump. “The benefits of combining pump therapy with CGM are well-documented, and the Dexcom G5 is the only integrated CGM approved for insulin dosing.”

Another benefit, she says, is that a patient may have different insulin needs during the course of the day and especially at night, and the pump can be programmed to meet the patient’s metabolic requirements. High and low glucose alert settings can also be programmed and set for the individual’s personal target range.

There are additional practical benefits. The real-time glucose data that are generated by a Dexcom G5 can be transmitted to the Dexcom Share app on a “smart” device to view and share, for the patient and their families.

Summary

Managing diabetes on a daily basis can be challenging for patients. Fortunately, newer and better ways of helping those patients are being developed and the combination of the t:slim X2 insulin pump and the Dexcom G5® CGM represents a major breakthrough.

For more information on the t:slim x2 INSULIN PUMP call 1-877-801-6901 or visit our website at www.tandemdiabetes.com