Journal of Diabetes Science and Technology
Volume 6, Issue 2, March 2012
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SYMPOSIUM

Blood Glucose Meters and Accessibility to Blind and Visually Impaired People

Darren M. Burton, B.A., Matthew G. Enigk, B.S., and John W. Lilly, B.S.

Abstract

In 2007, five blood glucose meters (BGMs) were introduced with integrated speech output necessary for use by persons with vision loss. One of those five meters had fully integrated speech output, allowing a person with vision loss independence in accessing all features and functions of the meter. In comparison, 13 BGMs with integrated speech output were available in 2011. Accessibility attributes of these 11 meters were tabulated and product design features examined.

All 13 meters were found to be usable by persons with vision loss to obtain a blood glucose measurement. However, only 4 of them featured the fully integrated speech output necessary for a person with vision loss to access all features and functions independently.

J Diabetes Sci Technol 2012;6(2):242-245

Author Affiliation: American Foundation for the Blind (AFB TECH), Huntington, West Virginia

Abbreviations: (BGM) blood glucose meter, (PC) personal computer

Keywords: accessibility, blindness, blood glucose meters, diabetes, visual impairment

Corresponding Author: Darren M. Burton, American Foundation for the Blind (AFB TECH), 1000 5th Ave., Suite 350, Huntington, WV 25701; email address *dburton@afb.net*