

ACCU-CHEK LANCETS AND TEST STRIPS NO LONGER COVERED AS A PREFERRED BRAND
Effective January 1, 2015 -- with a grace period until March 31, 2015

WHAT: Effective **January 1, 2015**, **Accu-Chek** test strips and lancets for use in Accu-Chek blood glucose meters will no longer be a preferred brand through your Caremark pharmacy benefit. They also will not be available at the reduced “maintenance” tier copayment you now get when you purchase them through mail order or a Retail-90 pharmacy.

OneTouch test strips and lancets will be the only preferred brand products available at the reduced copayments.

WHEN: January 1, 2015. Members will be allowed a grace period through the end of March to work with their doctors to get a prescription for the least costly **OneTouch** test strips and/or lancets. Affected members will receive a letter after January 1 from Caremark, the state’s pharmacy benefits manager, letting them know more about this change.

DOES THIS AFFECT ME? If you have diabetes and currently use Accu-Chek lancets and test strips with your blood glucose meter, it does affect you. You may continue to use and fill prescriptions for Accu-Chek lancets and test strips through March 2015, but after this date you will be subject to the Tier 3 (non-preferred brand) copayment for your plan – which will cost much more than you’ve been paying.

WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME ABOUT THIS NOW? As the administrator of the program, the State’s Benefits Administration division wants to give you and your doctor as much notice as possible about this change so that you can adjust as appropriate for your care.

WHAT SHOULD I DO? You can call the Caremark diabetes meter program at 1-800-588-4456 and request a type of OneTouch blood glucose meter. *One will be provided and shipped to you free of charge.* There are many versions (e.g. OneTouch VerioIQ, OneTouch Verio Sync, OneTouch Ultra Mini, etc.) so talk to your doctor to find out which one is best for you. Be sure to tell your doctor that *you will save the most money* if you switch to OneTouch test strips and lancets. You **can** continue to use other products, but doing so will cost you more. You will be required to fill your first 90 day supply of test strips through the mail order program; thereafter, you may continue to fill them through mail order or switch to a local Retail-90 pharmacy for a reduced copayment of a 90 day supply.

DO I HAVE TO CHANGE LANCETS AND TEST STRIPS? No. However, if you do not you will have much higher copayments starting on April 1, 2015. If you and your doctor decide that OneTouch glucose meter, lancets, and test strips will work just as well for you, you may choose to go ahead and make the change now.

To do so, work with your doctor to find out which OneTouch meter (see above) is best, and then call the diabetes meter program at 1-800-588-4456 to ask for a free one. They will obtain some information from you and reach out to your doctor for a prescription for a 90 day supply of test strips that will be filled through mail order (your reduced maintenance tier copayment will apply to the test strips). Thereafter, you can fill your remaining refills of test strips through either mail order or a Retail-90 pharmacy. You also have the option to fill both your OneTouch lancets and test strips for a 30-day regular copayment as well. You also have the option to pay for your own OneTouch meter, then work with your doctor to get prescriptions for either a 30 day supply of lancets and test strips, or a 90 day supply of test strips and lancets which can then be filled through mail order or a Retail-90 pharmacy.

I HAVE QUESTIONS. WHO DO I CALL? Call the customer service number on the back of your Caremark card at 1-877-522-8679.