

## How we helped Dudley Place save over £200,000 from their prescribing budget whilst improving patient care

### Overview

Dudley Place, part of NHS Black Country, partnered with Spirit Health to implement a Diabetes Product Use Review Service. Having previously delivered a blood glucose testing strip review, the medicines optimisation team were aware of the quality of our work. With Dudley Place in a budget-restricted environment, we supported them by delivering a diabetes product use review, aimed at optimising the use of blood glucose meters and insulin pen needles.

Our Active Implementation™ service meant we utilised our own team to carry out the necessary review service, ensuring that Dudley's resources were left to focus on their own workloads. This left one member of the medicines optimisation team to comment that **“we halved the time taken to carry out this work by collaborating with Spirit”**.

### Objectives

**Improve Patient Care:** Ensure patients are using blood glucose meters and insulin pen needles appropriately.

**Cost Efficiency:** Align product use with local formularies, NHS England guidance and best practice recommendations.

**Reduce Unnecessary Use:** Discontinue inappropriate or unnecessary product use and identify patients for further review.



### Implementation

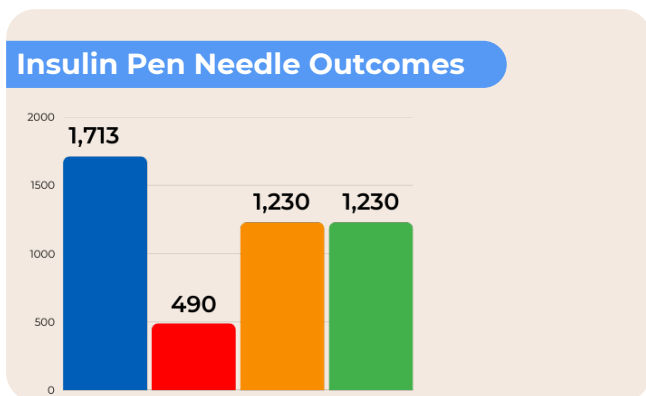
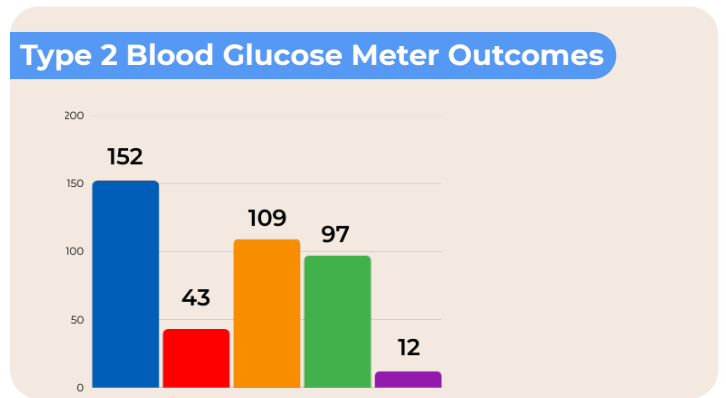
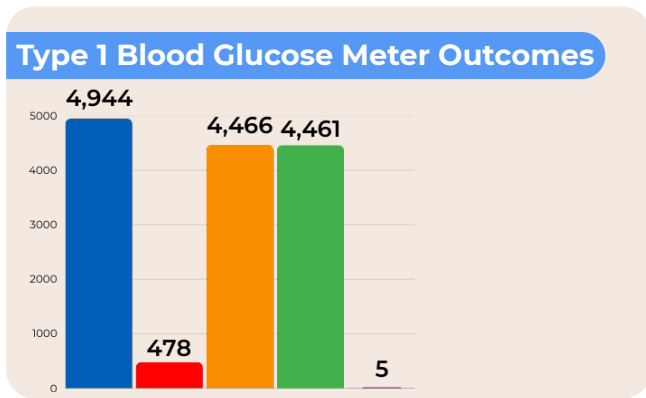
The service involved auditing GP practices to identify patients using blood glucose meters and insulin pen needles. Patients were stratified based on their product usage, and recommendations were made to optimise their treatment plans. Changes were implemented following approval from the practices' nominated approvers. All patients were then offered expert live remote training and support for their new meter, with live Q&As and ongoing free patient support through Spirit's Customer Service Team.

*This is a great example of collaborative work in line with NHS England guidance...The key thing for me was that we could continue with other aspects of our medicines optimisation work plan whilst we worked with a trusted partner.*

*- Hitesh Patel, Pharmaceutical Advisor, Dudley Place*

## Key Outcomes

The opt-in review service ran across Dudley Place with 100% practice participation.



- Total patients identified in audit
- Patients excluded following audit
- Total patients approved for meter/pen needle change
- Actual patients changed meter/pen needle
- Patients who declined meter change

## Financial Impact

The service generated significant cost savings, with the below infographics showcasing how much the prescription changes will impact an annualised budget:



## Conclusion

The Diabetes Product Use Review service successfully improved the quality of patient care and achieved substantial cost savings. The collaborative effort between the Dudley Medicines Optimisation Team and Spirit Health was central to this success, ensuring that diabetes management in the locality aligns with national guidelines and local formularies.

With Dudley Place having initially proposed to use their own clinical teams to deliver the review service, Hitesh said, “... [the diabetes review service] would have taken significantly longer than the coordinated approach taken by Spirit, probably double the time period.”

Overall, Dudley’s Medicines Optimisation Team were **100% satisfied**<sup>3</sup> with Spirit’s Active Implementation service and would use Spirit’s service again to save time, money and resource.