



Bayer HealthCare Diabetes Care

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Study Presented at ADA Finds In-Office A1CNow+® Monitor Reliable, Accurate In the Pediatric Endocrine Clinical Setting

CHICAGO, IL (June 23, 2007) – A new study presented here at the American Diabetes Association (ADA) Annual Meeting found that A1CNow+®, the only portable, hand-held, point-of-care A1C monitor is equivalent in accuracy to the DCA2000® in the pediatric endocrine clinical setting. Researchers from Children’s Hospital of Orange County, California who compared A1CNow+ and the DCA2000 also concluded that in addition to being equivalent in accuracy the two methods are equally useful in evaluating self care and for planning ongoing therapy for improved diabetes management.

HbA1c, also known as glycated hemoglobin, is a measure of a patient’s blood sugar control over the last two to three months. According to the American Diabetes Association, tight glycemic control sustained over time, as measured through HbA1c scores, slows the development of diabetic complications including heart, eye, kidney and nerve diseases and even a small reduction in HbA1c is important. The HbA1c value is an index of mean blood glucose levels over the past two to three months with significant changes in the HbA1c levels due to blood sugar variability over the last 30-40 days being detectable.

Both the A1CNow+ and the DCA2000 allow for fingerstick or venous blood draw testing and immediate, in-office HbA1c results as compared to more time-consuming lab analysis methods that require venous blood draws.

“Feedback of hemoglobin A1C results to patients with diabetes provides an opportunity to create an effective treatment plan at the time of the clinic visit,” said Susan Clark, M.D., of Children’s Hospital of Orange County, CA and one of the study investigators. Dr. Clark and her colleagues noted that in the pediatric population venous blood draws can be challenging because many children and adolescents dislike the invasive procedure. As a result, some parents may not be compliant in obtaining the child’s A1C measure prior to a visit with the healthcare professional.

“The ability to conduct HbA1c testing during an office visit enables us to get rapid results, to discuss those results with the patient and caregiver and to make on the spot treatment decisions based on the real-time HbA1C measure,” she added.

News Release

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Study Design and Results

A total of fifty subjects, ages seven to 18, were enrolled in the study, performed at Children's Hospital of Orange County, a pediatric endocrinology hospital based clinic. Each subject had their HbA1c measured in four ways including two fingerstick methods using A1CNow+ and DCA 2000 and two venous samples. One venous sample was sent to the hospital laboratory using the Colorimetric method and other sample was sent to a NGSP-certified Level II Laboratory in Sunnyvale, CA.

The A1CNow+ results were biased slightly higher than DCA2000 and both labs. DCA 2000 results were biased slightly lower than A1CNow+ and both labs. Both methods were accurate within the National Glycohemoglobin Standardization Program (NGSP) requirement of ± 1.0 percent.

Metrika, a Part of the Bayer Diabetes Care Business, Introduces New A1CNow+ with Improved Blood Sampler Available To Physicians

Metrika has just introduced a new, improved blood sampler for the A1CNow+ monitor that requires only 5 μ l of blood and allows for easier disposal. The new sampler is available to physicians through medical supply distributors.

The A1CNow+ is an easy-to-use and reliable system that provides immediate access to lab-quality NGSP certified HbA1c results in just five minutes. This helps to improve the overall efficiency of diabetes care by reporting HbA1c values directly to the patient or during the patients' office visit eliminating absent or delayed lab results. Utilizing the integration of micro-optical technology and solid state chemistry into a proprietary monitor with disposable cartridges, A1CNow+ provides rapid HbA1c results with precision and accuracy equivalent to certified laboratories.

The test can be performed with a simple 3-step procedure using finger-stick or venous blood. Fast, easy measurement of HbA1c enables people with diabetes and their healthcare providers to make immediate diabetes management decisions and to help optimize and calibrate therapy with the goal of improved outcomes.

A1CNow+ is reimbursable under CPT code 83037.

About HbA1c

HbA1c is formed when glucose in the blood binds irreversibly to hemoglobin to form a stable glycated hemoglobin HbA1c complex. Since the normal life span of red blood cells averages about 120 days, the HbA1c level will change as new red cells are made. HbA1c values are directly proportional to the average concentration of glucose in the blood over the past two to three months. HbA1c values are not subject to the daily fluctuations that are seen with blood sugar monitoring.

The ADA recommends that the test be performed every three months for patients who have HbA1c values at or above 7% and every six months for patients with HbA1c values below 7% as well as during treatment changes or after periods of elevated blood glucose levels. The ADA also added a recommendation for point-of-care HbA1c monitoring to their 2006 professional practice guidelines emphasizing the importance of routine real-time HbA1c monitoring of persons with diabetes.

The Diabetes Control and Complications Trial (DCCT) and the United Kingdom Prospective Diabetes Study (UKPDS) studies showed that lower HbA1c values are associated with prevention of, or significant decreases in, the development of serious eye, kidney and nerve disease. For every 1 percent reduction in A1C, the risk of developing eye, kidney and nerve disease associated with diabetes is reduced by 40 percent.

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The ADA clinical practice guidelines indicate diabetes is under control when the HbA1c result is 7% percent or less. The Links and Resources page of the ADA website (www.diabetes.org) contains several resources to assist patients and health care professionals in diabetes management.

Bayer HealthCare, Diabetes Care

Bayer HealthCare, Diabetes Care is a worldwide leader in diabetes, supporting customers in 100 countries. Since the introduction of CLINITEST[®] reagent tablets in 1941, Bayer has led the way in diabetes care product innovation. The company changed the face of diabetes care in 1969 when it introduced the first portable blood glucose meter and test strips. Bayer HealthCare further innovated diabetes management by being the first company to introduce a suite of blood glucose monitors with No Coding[™] technology. The BREEZE[®] and CONTOUR[®] blood glucose monitoring systems offer people with diabetes an unparalleled choice in diabetes management systems. The Arthritis Foundation in the United States and the Arthritis Society of Canada each granted Ease-of Use Commendation to the BREEZE meter, representing the first time a blood glucose meter has been recognized as easy to use for arthritis sufferers.

In July 2006, Bayer Diabetes Care acquired Metrika Inc., maker and manufacturer of A1CNow+, a meter-based diabetes monitoring system for measurement of HbA1c (glycated hemoglobin) an important indicator of long term blood sugar control.

Bayer HealthCare, Diabetes Care global headquarters is located in Tarrytown, New York, in the United States and operates as part of Bayer HealthCare LLC, a member of the worldwide Bayer HealthCare group.

Bayer HealthCare

Bayer HealthCare, a subsidiary of Bayer AG, is one of the world's leading, innovative companies in the healthcare and medical products industry and is based in Leverkusen, Germany. The company combines the global activities of the Animal Health, Consumer Care, Diabetes Care and Pharmaceuticals divisions. The pharmaceuticals business operates under the name Bayer Schering Pharma AG. Bayer HealthCare's aim is to discover and manufacture products that will improve human and animal health worldwide.

This news release contains forward-looking statements based on current assumptions and forecasts made by Bayer Group management. Various known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors could lead to material differences between the actual future results, financial situation, development or performance of the company and the estimates given here. These factors include those discussed in our public reports filed with the Frankfurt Stock Exchange and with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (including our Form 20-F). The company assumes no liability whatsoever to update these forward-looking statements or to conform them to future events or developments.

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