WASHINGTON – The U.S. diabetes community applauds the release of new federal guidance that will provide more evidence-based and equitable Medicare coverage for continuous glucose monitors (CGMs) for beneficiaries with diabetes.

We applaud the Biden Administration’s Durable Medical Equipment Medicare Administrative Contractors for their thoughtful consideration of testimony from diabetes advocates, clinicians and other stakeholders. The final Local Coverage Determination (LCD), effective April 16, 2023, removes several outdated administrative requirements that stood in the way of patient-centered care.

We also thank the co-chairs and staff of the Senate and Congressional Diabetes Caucuses for their continued engagement to secure Medicare coverage of diabetes that reflects the growing role of technology in improving health outcomes.

“Today marks a significant step toward Medicare coverage that truly reflects evolving diabetes technologies and standards of care,” said DLC Board Chair Stewart Perry, who testified on behalf of Medicare beneficiaries with diabetes at the November 15, 2022, public hearing. “By improving coverage criteria for CGM, the Biden Administration is paving the way for more affordable and equitable access to life-changing and lifesaving, but under-utilized, diabetes technology.”

“We know that access to diabetes technology can be life-changing and any delay risks the health of the person with diabetes,” said Aaron Turner-Phifer, JDRF Director of Health Policy. “These changes by Medicare are critical to ensure more people, from every community, have necessary access to innovative technology.”

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The Diabetes Leadership Council is a 501(c)(3) patient advocacy organization comprised of individuals who combine their passion for advocacy with decades of diabetes experience and leadership to advance patients-first policies at the local, state and national levels. Our members – all former leaders of national diabetes organizations – engage policymakers, and public and private sector influencers to call attention to the diabetes epidemic and provide a voice for 37 million Americans living with the disease.