Gadgets & Gizmos

The daily dealings of diabetes may sometimes feel a bit routine, but fear not! The world of research and technology has not forsaken you! New products are here to help you manage your diabetes more efficiently, keeping ease of use and style in mind for those who like a little spice in their life.

Take a look at just a few of what is and is to come.

*dLife is featuring just some of the many new products available. We do not endorse any specific product, but encourage you to discuss your needs with your doctor in order to determine what is right for you.

**A1C Test Kits**

It is recommended that people with diabetes test their A1C at least twice a year, possibly quarterly if goals are not yet being met. In between visits, you can test your A1C at home using the A1CNow® SELFCHECK System made by PTS Diagnostics.

One interesting feature is that you get your test results in 5 minutes right there in the comfort of your own home, as opposed to sending the test to a lab to wait for results.

This test kit is meant to complement, not replace, regular medical visits.

Get the details about this kit at http://www.ptsdiagnostics.com/a1cnow.html

**Blood Glucose Meters**

New products to help you monitor your blood glucose include:

iHealth’s Align is the the world’s smallest, most portable mobile glucometer. The meter plugs directly into your smartphone’s headphone jack, and displays results instantly on the phone screen. Just slightly bigger than a quarter, its compact size and mobile sync capability make it a small and powerful tool for diabetes management. The Gluco-Smart app allows you to take and log measurements anywhere and view trends and statistics for a span of 7, 14, 30 or 90 days.

Bayer's Contour® USB meter plugs directly into the USB port of the latest PCs and Macs so that you can download blood sugar data, and get analysis and trends to share with your healthcare professional. Bayer's Contour® USB Blood Glucose Monitor is currently compatible with Windows® 7, Windows® XP (SP3) and Vista® (SP2) as well as Mac OS X® 10.5.7 and 10.5.8 (Intel® 64 bit processors).
Bayer's Contour USB NEXT Blood Glucose Monitor is currently compatible with Windows 7, Windows XP (SP3) and Vista (SP2), Java (1.6.0_17 or higher) as well as Mac OS X (Intel 64 bit processors) and Java SE 6. The original Bayer's Contour USB meter model is still available for purchase.

Also from Bayer...

...Is the **Bayer's Contour NEXT LINK Meter** (pictured above). This is the newest wireless version of the Bayer blood glucose monitors that is designed to communicate directly with Medtronic's MiniMed Paradigm REAL-Time Revel™ insulin pump.

**TelCare's 3G blood glucose meter** uploads your blood sugar data to a server via a 3G connection. On the TelCare server, you can manage your data, make graphs and charts, and communicate with your healthcare providers. You can also re-order supplies directly through the meter. There are no monthly charges for the use of 3G. TelCare also produces an iPhone app that allows you to track your blood glucose readings over time.

**Gadgets & Gizmos, Continued**

The **iBGstar Diabetes Manager app** for iPhone (not yet compatible with iPhone5), iPod Touch, or iPad is designed for use with the **iBGStar Meter** (pictured above). Connect your meter to your Apple device to download test results, store and manage data, review trends, and share your information with your doctors.

Test your blood sugar and ketone levels with the **Nova Max Plus Blood Glucose Monitoring System**, which automatically converts into a ketone meter when Nova Max Plus Ketone strips are inserted.

Store your test results on your cell phone with **Genesis’s GHT meter**. Transmit your test results in real time to your cell phone, where they will be stored in your personalized electronic logbook. You can then text your results to any cell phone or share your test history with your healthcare team.

And then there is...

The **Freestyle InsuLinx**, is the first and only touch screen meter that lets you log insulin doses and blood glucose results with just a few simple taps. The large touch screen is easy to read. Plus, for your convenience, you can view 3 logged entries at a time.
The **OneTouch® Verio®Sync has PatternAlert™** Technology, which detects patterns of highs and lows—and alerts you, right on screen, and automatically sends glucose readings to your iphone.

Next there is...

**The Clever Chek Voice+** blood glucose meter is a bilingual, talking meter from Simple Diagnostics. Audio prompts guide you through each step of using your meter and testing your blood, and when the test is done you hear the results.

Another talking meter for the visually impaired is...

**The Prodigy Voice**, a totally audible, no-coding, blood glucose meter designed for the blind and those with low vision. It automatically turns on and will "talk" the user through the testing steps.

To learn more about this, visit www.prodigymeter.com.

**Gadgets & Gizmos, Continued**

**Pod Devices and Patch Pumps**

The **MiniMed 530G with Enlite** from Medtronic is an integrated insulin pump and CGM system that offers better control than multiple daily injections or conventional insulin pumps. It is the latest critical step toward the development of a fully automated artificial pancreas and is Medtronic's third-generation CGM-integrated insulin pump.

**Asante’s Snap** is an easy to use, simple to learn insulin pump that uses prefilled insulin cartridges. Snap is lightweight, quick to set up, and is even customizable. It is the only pump with a battery that never needs to be changed or charged, and its 300-unit glass cartridge prevents bubbles and keeps your insulin at high quality.

**Medingo Solo MicroPump**. The Solo combines the full features of a traditional pump with the freedom of a tube-free pump. The MicroPump is slim, lightweight and tube-free which provides optimal discretion. The detachable, modular design results in fewer infusion set changes. There are two bolus options: either with the remote or the bolus buttons located on the MicroPump. Find out more at www.solo4you.com.

Another option is...
Insulet's OmniPod is the world's first tubing-free system is small, wireless, and watertight. The Pod holds and delivers your insulin. The PDM (Personal Diabetes Manager) wirelessly programs your personalized insulin delivery, calculates suggested doses, and has a convenient, built-in FreeStyle® blood glucose meter.

The system was recently upgraded. The new OmniPod is even smaller, lighter and had many other enhancements, which you can check out at www.myomnipod.com. And be sure to check out Kelly Close’s review of the new system, while you’re at it.

Valeritas V-Go is the first simple, fully disposable device for the delivery of basal-bolus insulin therapy for adults with diabetes. The V-Go provides a continuous preset basal rate of insulin and allows for on-demand bolus dosing around mealtimes thereby providing an alternative to taking multiple daily insulin injections.

The V-Go is engineered to simplify basal-bolus insulin therapy for the millions of people suffering from Type 2 diabetes. Patients apply a new V-Go to the skin daily for one 24-hour period. The V-Go is not electronic, making it easy to operate and use.

www.valeritas.com

t:slim™ Insulin Delivery System
Tandem Diabetes Care™ brings you the t:slim™ Insulin Delivery System, the first insulin pump with a touch screen.

With its slim, compact design, the t:slim™ pump can be slipped into a pocket or worn discreetly under clothing. The t:slim™ Insulin Delivery System sports an integrated micro-USB port for easy, convenient charging and unsurpassed speed when uploading pump data to the t:connect™ Therapy Management Software, our Mac and PC-compatible web-based software application.

www.tandemdiabetes.com

But wait! There's more!

OneTouch Ping insulin pump, by Animas, is an advanced system with a waterproof pump and wireless meter-remote, color screen technology, and an extended battery life. Pump settings can conveniently be reviewed on either the pump or the meter-remote allowing for delivery of insulin without ever touching the pump itself.

Get more info at www.animas.com/animas-insulin-pumps/onetouch-ping.
The Finesse™ Patch-Pen, for people with type 1 and type 2 diabetes, is a disposable mechanical pump that can deliver bolus doses of insulin instantly. Commonly referred to as a "patch pen," the product is worn on the skin like a bandage, and with the squeeze of 2 buttons, the patient can trigger the release of insulin. This delivery system allows the patient to easily and discretely get their mealtime, snack, and correction insulin doses. The sticker system will help remind you when it's time to change your patch pump. This pump — FDA approved in 2010 — is made by Calibra Medical, which was acquired by Johnson & Johnson.

PaQ insulin delivery device by CeQur is a device will allow up to 3 days of continuous insulin, as well as on-demand bolus delivery at the push of a button. An adhesive backing securely attaches the device to the patient's abdominal area. The monitor is reusable and the insulin infuser and reservoir are both disposable.

Get more information at www.cequrcorp.com/.

Gadgets & Gizmos, Continued

Continuous Glucose Monitoring Systems

To keep a constant check on your glucose levels, there are products such as:

The DexCom SEVEN® PLUS system has the only Sensor FDA-approved for up to seven days of wear. It is wireless and water-resistant. The Animas® Vibe™ System is also available, which integrates Dexcom and the Animas pump.

The DexCom Gen 4 has the only Sensor FDA-approved for up to seven days of wear. It continuously measures glucose levels around the clock, even while a patient sleeps. It is wireless, water-resistant, and uses the most up-to-date technology. The system displays glucose values every five minutes and sounds an alarm (or vibrates) when glucose levels become too high or too low. In addition, trend reports can be viewed after information is downloaded to a computer.

And last, but not least, is...

The Medtronic Guardian® REAL-Time System (pictured above) continuously measures glucose levels around the clock, even while a patient sleeps. The system displays glucose values every five minutes and sounds an alarm (or vibrates) when glucose levels become too high or too low. In addition, trend reports can be viewed after information is downloaded to a computer.

Find out more at www.medtronicdiabetes.com.
Other Metering Technologies

No pain, all gain! That's the goal. Some painless devices being developed to help monitor blood glucose include:

- **Nano ink tattoos** (pictured above) that use reactive dyes and fluorescent beads that change color to mark BG changes.

  On the horizon, there is a **wristwatch** with membranes on the underside that use small electric currents to draw fluid through the skin and test BG that way.

Also in the works are **inhalable insulin** and **soft contact lenses** that change color to show whether blood sugars are going high or low.

Cell Phone and Touch Screen Technology

For cool-in-your-school applications, check out iTunes for diabetes applications such as the **dLife Mobile Companion**, where you can look up food, get recipes, check out videos, peruse expert answers, and even monitor your blood glucose, all from your Apple iPhone.

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Other useful apps are...

The **Glucose Buddy** and **iBGStar** apps for iPhone, iPod Touch, and iPad and the **OnTrack app and iBGStar app** for Android phones. All apps allow you to record and graph your blood glucose levels, as well as record exercise activity, food consumed, and medications taken.

And when you’re ready for a new cell phone, don’t get the same old phone. Visit **Cellnovo** to see a touch screen cell phone that wirelessly connects to an insulin pump and an online diabetes management system. The system is currently undergoing a usability trial in the UK.

Just for Kids

Relieve the pain of injections with **Buzzy the Bumblebee**, a vibrating bumblebee shaped toy with a built-in ice pack. The vibrations distract nearby nerves, dulling or eliminating pain at the injection site. Visit www.buzzy4shots.com to learn more.
Bayer's DIDGET glucose monitoring system makes testing your blood sugar fun! The DIDGET meter plugs into Nintendo DS and Nintendo DS Lite and converts test results into reward points. Points can be used to unlock new levels or buy in-game products.

Other Cool Stuff

Keep your insulin cool on the go with these reusable wallets. A Frio case is easily activated using just tap water and your insulin stays cool up to 45 hours.

Kewl's ClimaPak utilizes nanotechnology and advanced software solutions to ensure optimum temperature control and a rechargeable battery life of 3-5 days. It can hold either two pre-filled pens, two vials, or one of each. This small and portable device has a programmable LCD display.

Treat your blood sugar low without artificial or genetically modified ingredients with the first all-natural glucose tablets, GlucoLift. GlucoLift comes in 3 flavors and contains 4 grams of glucose per tablet.

Connect iGlucose to your LifeScan One Touch or Nipro Diagnostic True glucose meters. This portable device with a rechargeable battery automatically sends your blood glucose readings to a personalized diabetes management web portal via text, email, or fax. Go online to see logbooks, trends, charts, and share your information with your healthcare team and family. No software, wireless connection, or cell phone is needed for use.

Gadgets & Gizmos, Continued

Keep looking ahead for more innovative tools that are sure to keep you excited about your diabetes management. Remember to talk to your doctor about which products are right for you.