What Diabetes Patients Don’t Know Between Finger Stick Measurements Could Hurt Them

Finger Stick Measurements compared with GGMS

An old proverb describes six blind men who were introduced to an elephant for the first time.

Upon examining the elephant, each of the men was confident of what an elephant was...

One said, “a elephant is like a rope”

The others disagreed each in turn saying, “No! An elephant was actually more like..

“a tree!”, “a snake!”, “a boulder!”, “a spear!”, “a rug!”

None of them could agree because none of them could see the whole picture.

Finger stick readings for diabetes suffer from the same problem each of the blind men had. Finger stick measurements don’t give you the whole picture. Finger stick measurements leave information gaps that can be misleading, suggesting that blood glucose levels are normal when, in fact, they are not.

CGMS System Gold Fills in the Missing Gaps

Unhealthy fluctuations in blood sugar (glucose) levels can occur without a patient or physician realizing it. In the top chart (below), a patient using four finger stick measurements to test blood sugars appears to be in good control -- maintaining glucose levels within a near-normal range. The bottom chart shows how CGMS® System Gold™ provides additional insight. It exposes unhealthy glucose fluctuations that can go unnoticed when only standard HbA1c tests and finger stick measurements are used. CGMS System Gold is a continuous glucose monitoring system that records 288 glucose measurements over a 24-hour period, providing 72 times more information than finger stick measurements when reviewed retrospectively by a healthcare provider. If left undetected, high and low blood sugar levels can contribute to diabetes-related complications and higher healthcare costs.

Comprehensive Information Using CGMS System Gold*

CGMS System Gold presents a comprehensive picture of blood glucose activity, filling in the gaps between finger stick readings. This chart reveals problematic high and low blood sugar levels.

The circles show that the lows and even the most dramatic peaks can be missed with finger stick testing.

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* Representative of actual patient data