

# navigating

# diabetes

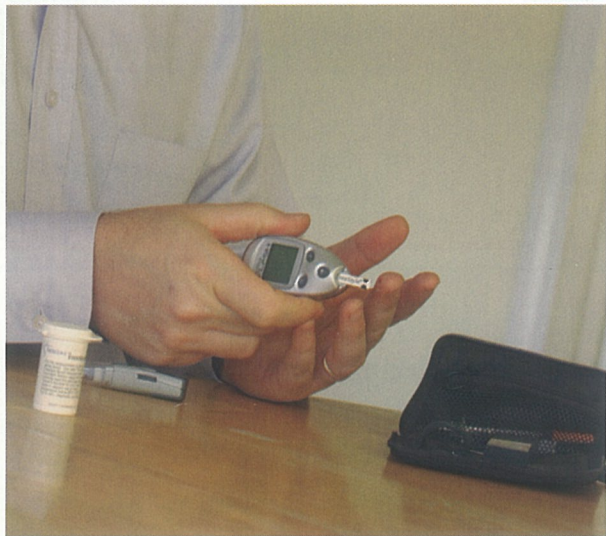
Jay Dunigan has been pricking his fingers and palms five to eight times daily for most of his life for blood samples to monitor his glucose and control his diabetes. It is an obvious aggravation for Jay, director of professional relations and reimbursement for Abbott Diabetes Care. But it has also given him incredible motivation personally and professionally to see advancements made in glucose monitoring technology.

Jay developed diabetes at age 10. Now he is 42, living in New Hampshire, and the father of three children, including his 19-year-old son, Jake, who was recently diagnosed with the same Type 1 diabetes – the type where the body does not make enough insulin. As part of a pre-marketing study, Jay eagerly stepped forward to try *FreeStyle Navigator*, Abbott's continuous glucose monitoring system in late-stage development. "It was pretty incredible. When I used it during internal clinical studies, it did what it said it would do," Jay recalled. When it is available to the public, he wants it. "This could be a blockbuster type of device because of its potential to help people better manage their diabetes," he said.



## Continuous System Improves Diabetes Monitoring

*FreeStyle Navigator* monitors glucose levels continuously, unlike today's methods that require manual blood samples. The continuous system is designed to enable patients to monitor glucose levels every 60 seconds, through a sensor worn on the arm or abdomen. The sensor samples interstitial fluid, not blood, for glucose levels and transmits results to a small wireless receiver that can be placed in a pocket or purse, or worn on a belt like a pager. The receiver is designed to sound an alarm if glucose levels are too high or low, or if a dangerous trend toward hypo- or hyperglycemia occurs. Patients would adjust insulin manually, if needed.



Dunigan alternates testing sites between his fingertips and palms. He currently uses the *FreeStyle Flash*, which returns an accurate reading in about seven seconds and offers unique lighting features.

***"The reason I joined TheraSense six years ago was the hope of a continuous glucose sensor. It is absolutely awe-inspiring to be part of the research. I am so grateful that my son may be able to enjoy the technology we are developing at Abbott."***

*FreeStyle Navigator* came to Abbott as part of the 2004 acquisition of TheraSense, along with the *FreeStyle* product line. Dunigan believes that Abbott Diabetes Care's expanded product line puts the company in excellent position to become the diabetes market's top provider. "I believe people will look back on Abbott's acquisition of TheraSense and say 'That was a smart purchase.' Over time, I believe the *Navigator* system will become the standard for many patients, and the current way of testing will become the back-up method."

## Huge Leap in Diabetes Technology

Dunigan currently tests his glucose using an Abbott *FreeStyle Flash* meter, which represents a technology leap of its own. Introduced in October 2003, *FreeStyle Flash* is the smallest hand-held glucose meter on the market, and requires a blood sample of only 0.3 microliters. The first blood testing products in the 1980s needed

50-microliter samples. Its ability to use tiny sample sizes of blood and alternate site testing (drawing samples from the palms as well as fingertips) let *FreeStyle* achieve one of its most important advancements – virtually pain-free monitoring.

For Jay, who's active in sports and several diabetes organizations, *FreeStyle Navigator* represents a huge leap in diabetes technology because of the advantage of **continuous** glucose monitoring. "The fact that you don't have to constantly remember to check your glucose, or interrupt your day five to eight times is phenomenal progress in diabetes care," said Dunigan. "I look forward to the day when I'm sitting in a dark movie theatre, and all I have to do is look down at the luminescent monitor on my belt to know if I can get a refill on my popcorn." Pending U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval, Abbott hopes to launch *FreeStyle Navigator* in late 2005 or early 2006.