

SPRING 2012

SPECIAL REPORT

diabetes care in a new light

What's new for 2012 in research and treatment.

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Some New Technologies to Try

GreatCall (greatcall.com) offers free and minimal-fee services on the big-button Samsung Jitterbug cell phone (this phone becomes your cell phone and GreatCall is your cell service). A weekly wellness call can encourage you to eat healthier or move your body, and you can sign up for reminders to take your meds, check your glucose, or refill medications. 5Star Urgent Response also can initiate emergency assistance.

iBGStar (gstar.com) is a tiny meter you can use on its own or plug in to an iPhone or iPod Touch to log results in the iBGStar Diabetes Manager app.

The app can track glucose results, carb intake, and more. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved iBGStar this past December and it could be on sale as early as this summer.

WellDoc DiabetesManager (welldoc.com) was founded by an endocrinologist and is FDA-approved. It provides cell phone- or Web-based coaching in real time. A study found that PWDs using DiabetesManager lowered A1C by nearly 2 percent compared with just under 1 percent for the usual-care group.