



The Point

July 2023

Making diabetes care better, less frustrating and more fun since 2008

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FORMULARY CHANGES FOR GLARGINE

Good news: glargine is available in more generic and biosimilar forms, helping to reduce cost.

Bad news: glargine is available in more generic and biosimilar forms, making it potentially more confusing for prescribers because not all forms of glargine are interchangeable at the pharmacy level. Lantus is interchangeable with Rezvoglar, Semglee and generic glargine. Basaglar has no interchangeable biosimilar so only Basaglar can be dispensed.

For new starts, **Healthy Worker/SFHP medi-cal** no longer covers Basaglar Kwikpen or Levemir Flexpen. Existing users can continue to use Basaglar Kwikpen, or you can proactively change to a lower cost glargine pen. Preferred tier 1 glargine products include:

- Rezvoglar 100 units/mL **pen** (most cost effective option for pen)
- Insulin glargine-yfgn (Semglee) 100 units/mL **vial or pen** (most cost effective option for vial)
- Insulin glargine (Lantus) 100 units/mL **vial or pen**

Medi-cal Rx on the other hand, only covers Semglee, Lantus or Basaglar, but not Rezvoglar.

To keep it simple, if you only want to remember one thing, **Semglee vial or pen** is the middle of the road in cost, (**generic glargine vial or pen** costs a little more) and both are covered on Medi-cal Rx and HW/SFHP medi-cal.

Unchanged: **HSF** covers NPH (vial) or glargine (Lantus) vial or pen without PA for T1DM and T2DM.

Another pro tip: **don't** check the DAW box for glargine prescriptions to allow pharmacy the most flexibility in making substitutions. We are working with Epic to streamline prescribing of all diabetes medications including insulins in the future-- TBD.

We try to keep the formulary cheatsheet up-to-date at sfghdiabetes.org. Check it out [here!](#)

DIABETES EDUCATION IN CANTONESE

Many of you have referred patients to our English and Spanish DM education groups. Please remember supports are available to Cantonese speaking patients as well. **We are actively recruiting for:**

- Cantonese group education pushed back to September
- Cantonese Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP)

As usual, please continue submitting eConsult to Diabetes for all our groups in English/Spanish/Cantonese and DPP in English/Spanish



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