

[0084] Controller 74 may be comprised of one or more components configured as a single unit or of multi-component form. Controller 74 may be programmable, a state logic machine or other type of dedicated hardware, or a hybrid combination of programmable and dedicated hardware. One or more components of controller 74 may be of the electronic variety defining digital circuitry, analog circuitry, or both. As an addition or alternative to electronic circuitry, controller 74 may include one or more mechanical or optical control elements.

[0085] In one embodiment including electronic circuitry, controller 74 includes an integrated processor 78 operatively coupled to one or more solid-state memory devices defining, at least in part, memory 76. For this embodiment, memory 76 contains operating logic to be executed by a processor 78 that is a microprocessor and is arranged for reading and writing of data in memory 76 in accordance with one or more routines of a program executed by microprocessor 78.

[0086] Memory 76 may include one or more types of solid-state electronic memory and additionally or alternatively may include the magnetic or optical variety. For example, memory 76 may include solid-state electronic Random Access Memory (RAM), Sequentially Accessible Memory (SAM) (such as the First-In, First-Out (FIFO) variety or the Last-In First-Out (LIFO) variety), Programmable Read Only Memory (PROM), Electrically Programmable Read Only Memory (EPROM), or Electrically Erasable Programmable Read Only Memory (EEPROM); or a combination of any of these types. Also, memory 76 may be volatile, nonvolatile or a hybrid combination of volatile and nonvolatile varieties. Some or all of memory 76 can be of a portable type, such as a disk, tape, memory stick, cartridge, code chip or the like. Memory 76 can be at least partially integrated with processor 78 and/or may be in the form of one or more components or units.

[0087] In other embodiments, it is contemplated that the docking device 50 may utilize a removable memory key that is pluggable into a socket or other receiving means (not shown) of housing 51, and which communicates with the memory or controller of docking device 50 to provide information relating to calibration codes, measurement methods, measurement techniques, and information management. Examples of such removable memory keys are provided above.

[0088] In one embodiment, memory 76 of docking device 50 includes a calendar that stores a schedule of events which may be representative of times for measuring bG levels, taking medications, visiting a physician and performing other daily tasks, including going to work, school and meetings, just to name a few possibilities. In this embodiment, processor 78 is programmed so that an alarm or other indicator on docking device 50 audibly, visually or by vibration alerts the user to perform each event according to the schedule. Once the event has been completed, a user may provide an indication of same with user entry means 68 and processor 78 is programmed to process and record the indication in memory 76. In one form, user entry means 68 is utilized for entering events into the calendar, although it is also contemplated that a secondary device, such as a PC, could be utilized for scheduling events in the calendar. As discussed in further detail below, it is contemplated that docking device 50 can be used for scheduling events in the calendar stored in memory 40 of bG meter 20. In this regard, it should be appreciated that the

events stored in memory 76 of docking device 50 may correspond to one or more of the events stored in memory 40 of bG meter 20.

[0089] Besides memory 76, controller 74 may also include clock 80, display 70, and entry means 68 associated therewith, along with signal conditioners, filters, limiters, Analog-to-Digital (A/D) converters, Digital-to-Analog (D/A) converters, communication ports, or other types of operators as would occur to those skilled in the art to implement the present invention. In the embodiment illustrated in FIGS. 1 and 5, for example, entry means 68 is defined by a plurality of push-button input devices, although entry means 68 may include one or more other types of input devices like a keyboard, mouse or other pointing device, touch screen, touch pad, roller ball, or a voice recognition input subsystem. Display 70 may include one or more output means like an operator display that can be of a Cathode Ray Tube (CRT) type, Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) type, plasma type, Organic Light Emitting Diode (OLED) type, a printer, or the like. Other input and display means can be included such as loudspeakers, voice generators, voice and speech recognition systems, haptic displays, electronic wired or wireless communication subsystems, and the like.

[0090] Docking device 50, either alone or in connection with its interface with bG meter 20, is generally operable to perform a plurality diabetes management functions, which can include any actions related to the schedule, dietary intake, or dietary planning of a diabetic; set-up and configuration of bG meter 20 or docking device 50; analysis of bG measurement data; insulin delivery; general advice or education regarding diabetes management and treatment planning; and/or interaction between a diabetic and third parties, such as healthcare professionals, just to name a few possibilities. More particular examples of diabetes management functions are provided below, although it is contemplated that other functions performed by docking device 50 and described elsewhere herein may also be examples of diabetes management functions. As docking device 50 is configured to perform certain diabetes management functions, it may include features in addition to those described above. In this regard, such additional features are also described below. It should be appreciated that docking device 50 is not precluded from being operable to perform some or all of the functions described herein, or from including some or all of the additional features described below, regardless of such features being described in connection with certain functions.

[0091] In one embodiment, docking device 50 may include a communication link for wireless connection with a secondary device, such as a personal computer, modem, local area network, or the worldwide web. Examples of wireless connections can include WiFi, bluetooth, and SMS connections, just to name a few possibilities. In one embodiment, the wireless connection can be used for remote viewing and/or analysis of data, such as bG measurements, stored in memory 76 of docking device 50 or memory 20 of bG meter 20 when bG meter 20 is positioned in internal receptacle 64. The wireless connection can also be utilized for downloading programming updates for one or both of docking device 50 and bG meter 20. When the programming update is for bG meter 20 and it is not interfaced with docking device 50 when the update is received, it is contemplated that docking device 50 can store the update in memory 76 until the next time bG meter 20 is positioned in internal receptacle 64 and interfaces with docking device 50. Once bG meter 20 interfaces with