

to perform one or more of the diabetes management functions that docking device 50 performs. For example, the software can process and record bG measurement data from bG meter 20, perform an analysis of the bG measurement data and provide an output, such as a graphical representation, of the bG measurement data. It is also contemplated that the PC software is operable to organize and modify the events scheduled in the calendar stored in memory 40 of bG meter 20 or memory 76 of docking device 50. Still, in further forms it is contemplated that the PC software is operable to configure one or more of the operating parameters of bG meter 20 or docking device 50. As an example, the PC software can provide updates to one or both of bG meter 20 and docking device 50 which are first downloaded onto the PC from the internet or some other electronic media, such as a CD or DVD. In addition to the foregoing, it is contemplated that the PC software can be operable to download information from docking device 50 and transfer it to appropriate health management related databases. For example, in one form it is contemplated that certain information stored on docking device 50 can be transferred to a relevant insurance database. In another form, it is contemplated that relevant information stored on docking device 50 can be downloaded into an electronic health record of the patient.

[0111] In a further embodiment of the present application illustrated in FIG. 12, a system 100 includes a plurality of docking devices 110, 120, 130, although additional docking devices are contemplated. Docking devices 110, 120 and 130 each include an internal receptacle (not shown) that is structured to receive bG meter 20 as described above with respect to docking device 50. Additionally, docking devices 110, 120 and 130 can also each interface with bG meter 20 as described above with respect to bG meter 20 and docking device 50. Docking devices 110, 120 and 130 can include one or more of the features described above with respect to docking device 50, but are each independently configured to perform a unique set of diabetes management functions relative to each other. As used herein, the term "unique" means that each of the docking devices 110, 120 and 130 performs diabetes management functions in addition to or in lieu of those performed by another docking device.

[0112] In one form, each of the docking devices 110, 120 and 130 is configured to correspond to the specific needs of a user likely to use the respective docking device 110, 120 and 130. For example, in one form, one of the docking devices 110, 120 and 130 is configured to be used by an insulin dependent diabetic, a second of the docking devices 110, 120 and 130 is configured to be used by a physician, and a third of the docking devices 110, 120 and 130 is configured to be used by a dietician. Several exemplary differences between the functionality of the docking devices in this arrangement can be present. For example, the first one of the one of the docking devices 110, 120 and 130 can include a calendar, which provides reminders for checking bG levels or taking insulin, which is not included by the second and third docking devices. As another example, the second one of devices 110, 120 and 130 can be configured to provide sophisticated graphical analysis of bG measurement data useful to the physician, but not otherwise useful to the insulin-dependent diabetic or the dietician. To that end, the other two docking devices are not configured to provide this type of bG measurement data analysis. Still, further examples of differences between the docking devices 110, 120 and 130 are contemplated by the subject application. Additionally, it should be

appreciated that devices 110, 120 and 130 can be configured for users beyond those described above.

[0113] While not specifically described above, it should be appreciated that bG meter 20 can be used to measure blood glucose values as a stand-alone device and/or when it is positioned in receptacle 64 of docking device 50. For example, when used alone, a user can control bG meter 20 with entry means 26, if necessary, and the information related to the functions performed by bG meter 20, including the results of blood glucose measurements, are provided on display 24. In the arrangement where bG meter 20 is positioned in receptacle 64 of docking device 50 however, a user can control bG meter 20 with entry means 68, if necessary, and the information related to the functions performed by bG meter 20, including the results of blood glucose measurements, are provided on display 70 of docking device 50. In one form of this arrangement, it is contemplated that the information on display 70 of docking device 50 is the same as or substantially similar to the information provided on display 24 of bG meter 20 when bG meter 20 is used alone. Moreover, the information may be provided on display 70 in a format that is the same as or substantially similar to the format in which the information is provided on display 24 of bG meter 20. Additionally, the manner for operating and controlling bG meter 20 with docking device 50 may be the same as or substantially similar to the manner in which bG meter 20 is operated and controlled when bG meter 20 is used alone. As an additional or alternative feature of the arrangement where bG meter is positioned in receptacle 64 of docking device 50, it is contemplated that the ability for a user to control bG meter 20 with entry means 68 of docking device 50 may generally occur automatically, or seamlessly, as a result of the communication interface between bG meter 20 and docking device 50. Similarly, the information related to the functions performed by bG meter 20, including the results of blood glucose measurements, may generally be provided automatically, or seamlessly, on display 70 of docking device 50 as a result of the communication interface between bG meter 20 and docking device 50. Further details regarding various configurations for displaying blood glucose measurements on one or both of bG meter 20 and docking device 50 are described in U.S. patent application Ser. No. _____, titled "Blood Glucose Management and Interface Systems and Methods" (Attorney Docket No. ROCD-12/WP24855US) and filed on the same date as the subject application, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. However, it also contemplated that entry means 68 and display 70 of docking device 50 will not control bG meter 20 or provide information related to its functions unless first prompted by a user with, for example, entry means 68 of docking device 50.

[0114] While the invention has been illustrated and described in detail in the drawings and foregoing description, the same is to be considered as illustrative and not restrictive in character, it being understood that only certain embodiments have been shown and described and that all changes and modifications that come within the spirit of the inventions are desired to be protected. It should be understood that while the use of words such as preferable, preferably, preferred or more preferred utilized in the description above indicate that the feature so described may be more desirable, it nonetheless may not be necessary and embodiments lacking the same may be contemplated as within the scope of the invention, the scope being defined by the claims that follow. In reading the claims, it is intended that when words such as "a," "an," "at