WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of operating an analyte measurement device having a display, user interface, processor, memory and user interface buttons, the method comprising:

measuring an analyte with the analyte measurement device;

displaying a value representative of the analyte;

presenting one of a plurality of predetermined flags;

querying a user to select the predetermined flag to associate the flag with the value; and

pressing only one of the user interface buttons once to store the predetermined flag with the value of the analyte in the memory of the device.

2. The method of claim 1, in which the user interface buttons comprise an up button, a down button and an OK button.

3. The method of claim 1, in which the plurality of predetermined flags comprises a before meal flag, an after meal flag, a fasting flag, or a blank flag.

4. The method of claim 1, in which the querying comprises pressing a user interface button to select another of the plurality of predetermined flags.

5. The method of claim 1, in which the querying comprises always querying a user whenever a measuring step has been completed.

6. The method of claim 1, in which the querying comprises querying a user whenever a measuring step indicates that an analyte value is outside a predetermined range.

7. The method of claim 1, in which the pressing comprises storing in memory the date and time at the completion of the measuring step with the selected flag.

8. The method of claim 1, in which the analyte measurement device comprises a glucose meter.

9. The method of claim 1, in which the measuring comprises:

inserting a test strip into a strip port provided by the measurement device; and

depositing a blood sample on a testing portion of the test strip without entering a calibration parameter for the test strip.

10. The method of claim 1, in which the measuring comprises

inserting a test strip into a strip port provided by the measurement device;

inputting a calibration parameter for the test strip via the user interface buttons of the device; and,

depositing a blood sample on a testing portion of the test strip.

11. The method of claim 1, in which the plurality of predetermined flags comprise a comment title, a plurality of comments, comment page number, no comment, not enough food, too much food, mild exercise, strenuous exercise, medication, stress, illness, hypoglycemic state, menses, vacation, and combinations thereof.

12. The method of claim 1, further comprising selecting a plurality of menus to be displayed.

13. The method of claim 12, in which one of the plurality of menus comprises a prompt for last result, all results, averages, and settings.

14. The method of claim 13, in which another of the plurality of menus comprises a prompt for all results average, meal averages, and fasting averages.

15. The method of claim 1, in which the displaying comprises exhibiting a message of a value less than a predetermined value.

16. The method of claim 1, in which the displaying comprises exhibiting a message of a value higher than a predetermined value.

17. The method of one of claim 15 or claim 16, in which the pressing comprises storing the predetermined flag with the message.

18. A glucose measurement device comprising:

a glucose measurement unit configured to provide signals indicative of glucose amount in a fluid sample;

a display; and

a processor coupled to the display, glucose measurement unit, memory and user interface buttons so that, upon receipt of signals representing a glucose amount in a fluid sample from the measurement unit, the display exhibits one of a plurality of predetermined flags and the user interface buttons are operable to associate the one predetermined flag with the glucose amount in the memory with only one of the user interface buttons.

19. The glucose measurement device of claim 18, in which the plurality of predetermined flags comprises a before meal flag, an after meal flag, a fasting flag, or a blank flag.

CLAIMS

1. A method of operating an analyte measurement device having a display, user interface, processor, memory and user interface buttons, the method comprising:
measuring an analyte with the analyte measurement device;
displaying a value representative of the analyte;
automatically displaying by the analyte measurement device one of a plurality of pre-determined flags that includes a before meal flag, an after meal flag, a fasting flag, or a blank flag depending on when the measuring step is taken during a day by the analyte measurement device, including a fasting flag being set as a default flag whenever a measurement is taken in an early morning period as determined by an internal clock of the measurement device and further including before meal or after meal flag set as a default flag near meal times as determined by the internal clock of the measurement device;
querying a user to select the one predetermined flag shown on the display by the displaying step to associate the one predetermined flag with the value; and
pressing only one of the user interface buttons once to store the one predetermined flag with the value of the analyte in the memory of the device.

2. The method of claim 1, in which the user interface buttons comprise an up button, a down button and an OK button.

3. The method of claim 1, in which the querying comprises pressing a user interface button to select another of the plurality of predetermined flags.

4. The method of claim 1, in which the querying comprises always querying a user whenever a measuring step has been completed.

5. The method of claim 1, in which the querying comprises querying a user whenever a measuring step indicates that an analyte value is outside a predetermined range.

6. The method of claim 1, in which the pressing comprises storing in memory the date and time at the completion of the measuring step with the selected flag.

7. The method of claim 1, in which the analyte measurement device comprises a glucose meter.

8. The method of claim 1, in which the measuring comprises inserting a test strip into a strip port provided by the measurement device;
and
depositing a blood sample on a testing portion of the test strip without entering a calibration parameter for the test strip.

9. The method of claim 1, in which the measuring comprises inserting a test strip into a strip port provided by the measurement device;
inputting a calibration parameter for the test strip via the user interface buttons of the device; and,
depositing a blood sample on a testing portion of the test strip.

10. The method of claim 9, in which the inserting comprises turning on the measurement device when the strip is fully inserted into the strip port.

11. The method of claim 1, in which the plurality of predetermined flags comprise a comment title, a plurality of comments, comment page number, no comment, not enough food, too much food, mild exercise, strenuous exercise, medication, stress, illness, hypo-glycemic state, menses, vacation, and combinations thereof.

12. The method of claim 1, further comprising selecting a plurality of menus to be displayed.

13. The method of claim 12 , in which one of the plurality of menus comprises a prompt for last result, all results, averages, and settings.

14. The method of claim 13, in which another of the plurality of menus comprises a prompt for all results average, meal averages, and fasting averages.

15. The method of claim 1, in which the displaying comprises exhibiting a message of a value less than a predetermined value.

16. The method of claim 1, in which the displaying comprises exhibiting a message of a value higher than a predetermined value.

17. The method of claim 15 or claim 16, in which the pressing comprises storing the predetermined flag with the message.

18. A method of operating an analyte measurement device having a display, user interface, processor, memory and user interface buttons, the method comprising:
measuring an analyte with the analyte measurement device;
displaying a value representative of the analyte;
presenting a default flag from a plurality of predetermined flags depending on when the measuring step is taken at various time periods in a day, the presenting including displaying a fasting flag as a default flag whenever a measurement is taken in an early morning period as determined by an internal clock of the measurement device and further displaying before meal or after meal flag set as a default flag near meal times as determined by the internal clock of the measurement device;
querying a user to select the default flag to associate the default flag with the value; and
pressing only one of the user interface buttons once to store the default flag with the value of the analyte in the memory of the device.

19. The method of claim 18, in which the default flag comprises a before meal flag near meal times during a day.

20. The method of claim 18, in which the default flag comprises an after meal flag near meal times during a day