
GLP-1 Agonists: Thoughtful Prescribing, Improved Outcomes Arriving

Allison Bernard, Pharm D, BCACP
University of Iowa Health Care
The Iowa Physician Assistant Society Fall 2025 CME
October 21, 2025

Disclosure

- Dr. Bernard has no actual or potential conflicts of interest to disclose
- Off-label use of medications will not be discussed during this presentation

Objectives

1. Understand the mechanism of action of GLP-1 and dual GLP-1/GIP receptor agonists and the resulting effects on glycemic control and weight loss
2. Expand knowledge of prescribing GLPs, including patient selection, dosing strategies, monitoring, and managing potential side effects
3. Compare GLP insurance coverage requirements and patient assistance resources for public and private insurance plans

Introduction

What are GLP-1 and dual GLP-1/GIP receptor agonists?

- Synthetic analogs of glucagon-like peptide 1 (GLP-1) and glucose-dependent insulintropic polypeptide (GIP) used to treat type 2 diabetes and obesity

Why are they important?

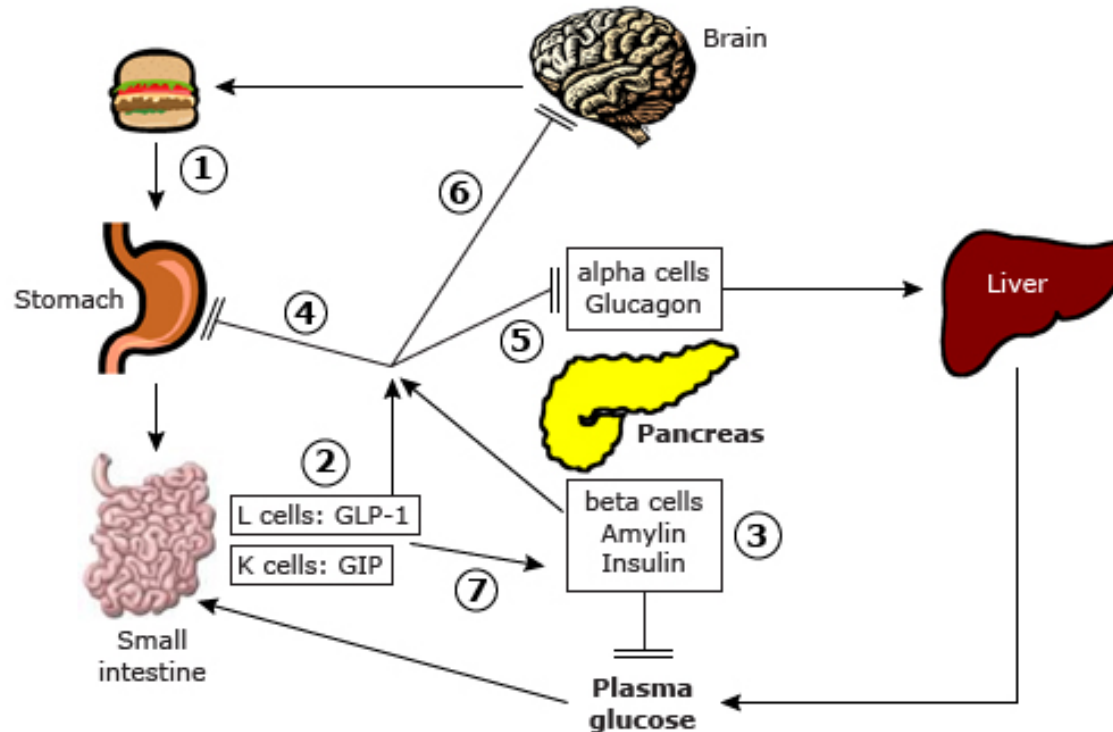
- Offer glycemic control, weight loss, and cardiovascular/renal benefits

Outline

- I. Mechanisms of Action
- II. Available GLP-1 RAs and dual GLP-1/GIP RAs and Their Pharmacology
- III. Clinical Indications
- IV. Safety & Side Effects
- V. Practical Considerations
- VI. Future Directions

Mechanisms of Action

Endogenous GLP-1/GIP Physiology



In healthy individuals, (1) ingestion of food results in (2) release of gastrointestinal peptides (GLP-1 and GIP) as well as (3) pancreatic beta cell hormones (insulin and amylin). GLP-1 and amylin, in particular, have inhibitory effects on (4) gastric emptying, (5) glucagon release, and (6) appetite. (7) Following the absorption of food, GLP-1 and GIP promote insulin secretion, otherwise known as the incretin effect. In diabetes, these steps are disrupted.

GIP: glucose-dependent insulintropic polypeptide (formerly called gastric inhibitory polypeptide); GLP-1: glucagon-like peptide 1.

Graphic 59551 Version 6.0

© 2025 UpToDate, Inc. and/or its affiliates. All Rights Reserved.

Pharmacologic Actions

GLP-1

Site of synthesis: small intestinal L cells

Activates GLP-1 receptors on pancreatic β -cells, enhances glucose-dependent insulin release

Slows gastric emptying

Euglycemia or hypoglycemia: No effect
Hyperglycemia: suppresses inappropriate glucagon secretion

Promotes satiety and reduced food intake via CNS signaling, contributing to weight reduction

GIP

Site of synthesis: small intestinal K cells

Dual agonists stimulate GIP receptors on pancreatic β -cells, further amplifying glucose-dependent insulin secretion

No effect on gastric emptying

Euglycemia or hypoglycemia: stimulates glucagon
Hyperglycemia: no effect

GIP enhances weight loss effects when combined with GLP-1 receptor stimulation

Available GLP-1 RAs and dual GLP-1/GIP Ras and Their Pharmacology

GLP-1 Receptor Agonists – Type 2 Diabetes Treatment

Medication	Dosage Form	Dosing
Dulaglutide (Trulicity®)	pen-injector (single dose): 0.75 mg/0.5 mL, 1.5 mg/0.5 mL, 3 mg/0.5 mL, 4.5 mg/0.5 mL	• starting dose: 0.75 mg once weekly • titration: increase every 4 weeks • max dose: 4.5 mg once weekly
Exenatide (Byetta®)	pen-injector (multi-dose): 5 mcg/0.02 mL, 10 mcg/0.04 mL	• starting dose: 5 mcg twice daily • max dose: 10 mcg twice daily
Exenatide ER (Bydureon®)	auto-injector (single dose): 2 mg/0.85 mL	• starting dose: 2 mg once weekly • max dose: 2 mg once weekly
Liraglutide (Victoza®)	pen-injector (multi-dose): 18 mg/3 mL	• starting dose: 0.6 mg once daily x 7 days then increase to 1.2 mg daily • max dose: 1.8 mg once daily
Semaglutide (Ozempic®)	pen-injector (multi-dose): 0.25 or 0.5 mg per dose (2 mg/3 mL), 1 mg per dose (4 mg/3 mL), 2 mg/dose (8 mg/3 mL)	• starting dose: 0.25 mg once daily • titration: increase every 4 weeks • max dose: 2 mg once weekly
Semaglutide (Rybelsus®)	oral tablet: 3 mg, 7 mg, 14 mg	• starting dose: 3 mg once daily • titration: increase every 30 days • max dose: 14 mg once daily

Dual GLP-1/GIP Receptor Agonists – Type 2 Diabetes Treatment

Medication	Dosage Form	Dosing
Tirzepatide (Mounjaro®)	pen-injector: 2.5 mg/0.5 mL, 5 mg/0.5 mL, 7.5 mg/0.5 mL, 10 mg/0.5 mL, 12.5 mg/0.5 mL, 15 mg/0.5 mL	• starting dose: 2.5 mg once weekly • titration: increase every 4 weeks • max dose: 15 mg once weekly

GLP-1 and Dual GLP-1/GIP Receptor Agonists – Obesity Treatment

Medication	Dosage Form	Dosing
Liraglutide (Saxenda®)	pen-injector (multi-dose): 18 mg/3 mL	- starting dose: 0.6 mg once daily - titration: increase by 0.6 mg/day at weekly intervals - max dose: 3 mg daily
Semaglutide (Wegovy®)	auto-injector: 0.25 mg/0.5 mL; 0.5 mg/0.5 mL; 1 mg/0.5 mL; 1.7 mg/0.75 mL; 2.4 mg/0.75 mL	- starting dose: 0.25 mg once weekly - titration: increase every 4 weeks - max dose: 2.4 mg once weekly

Medication	Dosage Form	Dosing
Tirzepatide (Zepbound®)	pen-injector: 2.5 mg/0.5 mL, 5 mg/0.5 mL, 7.5 mg/0.5 mL, 10 mg/0.5 mL, 12.5 mg/0.5 mL, 15 mg/0.5 mL	- starting dose: 2.5 mg once weekly - titration: increase every 4 weeks - max dose: 15 mg once weekly

Indication-Specific Brand and Generic Names

liraglutide

Diabetes:
Victoza®

Obesity:
Saxenda®

**semaglutide
(SQ)**

Diabetes:
Ozempic®

Obesity:
Wegovy®

tirzepatide

Diabetes:
Mounjaro®

Obesity:
Zepbound®

Pharmacokinetics

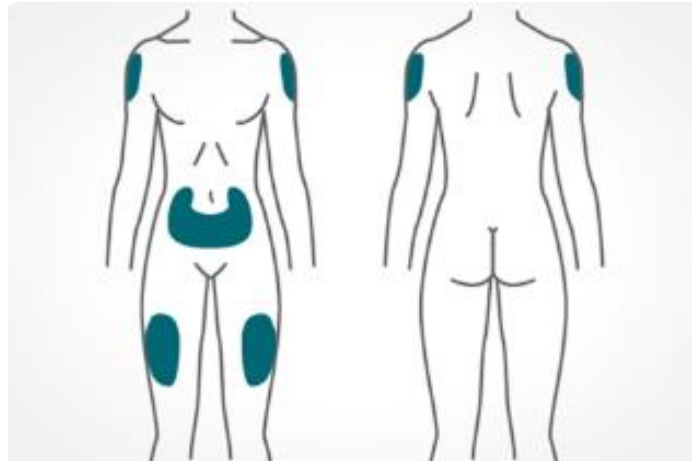
- Time to peak and duration of action
 - Short-acting agents (exenatide BID): duration ~6–10 hours, BID
 - Intermediate agent (liraglutide): half-life ~13 hours, daily injection
 - Long-acting agents (dulaglutide, semaglutide): achieve steady state after 4–8 weeks, half-lives ~90–160 hours, once-weekly dosing
- Impact on dosing frequency
 - Extended half-lives of newer GLP-1 RAs improve **treatment convenience and adherence**.
 - Less frequent dosing minimizes peaks and troughs in drug exposure, reducing GI side effects and maintaining consistent glycemic and appetite control

Pharmacokinetics

- Oral semaglutide considerations
 - Rybelsus® uses an absorption enhancer (SNAC) to promote gastric uptake.
 - Must be taken on an empty stomach with ≤ 4 oz of water, at least 30 minutes before eating, drinking, or taking other medications
 - Variable absorption and cost may limit use in some patients, but it offers an option for those hesitant about injections.

Administration

- Injection techniques
 - Administer via pre-filled single-use or multi-dose pens with fine-gauge needles
 - Common injection sites: abdomen, thigh
 - Prefilled, ready-to-use pens (e.g., Trulicity®, Mounjaro®) may be preferred by patients who wish to avoid handling or seeing needles



Clinical Indications and Benefits

GLP-1 Receptor Agonists

A1c Reduction	1.0 – 2.0%
Hypoglycemia	no
Weight Change	loss (intermediate to very high)
Effect on MACE	benefit: dulaglutide, liraglutide, semaglutide (SQ) neutral: exenatide once-weekly
Heart Failure	neutral
CKD Progression	benefit for renal endpoints in CVOTs driven by albuminuria outcomes: dulaglutide, liraglutide, semaglutide (SQ)

GLP-1/GIP Receptor Agonists

A1c Reduction	1.5 – 2.0%
Hypoglycemia	no
Weight Change	loss (very high)
Effect on MACE	benefit: tirzepatide
Heart Failure	under investigation
CKD Progression	under investigation



Type 2 Diabetes

Type 2 DM management

Goal

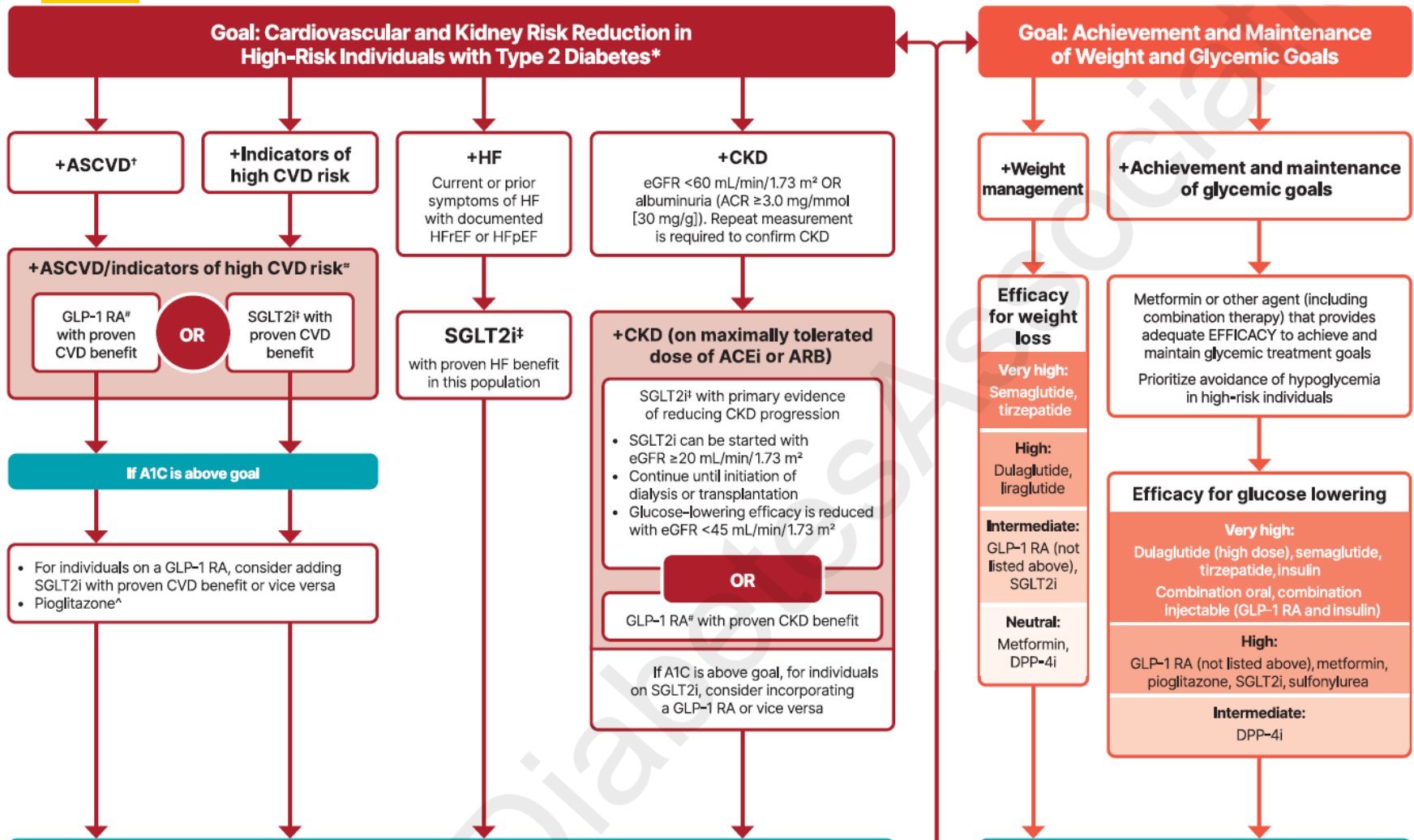
Cardiovascular Risk
Reduction in High-
Risk Individuals with
Type 2 Diabetes
(in addition to
comprehensive CV risk
management)

OR

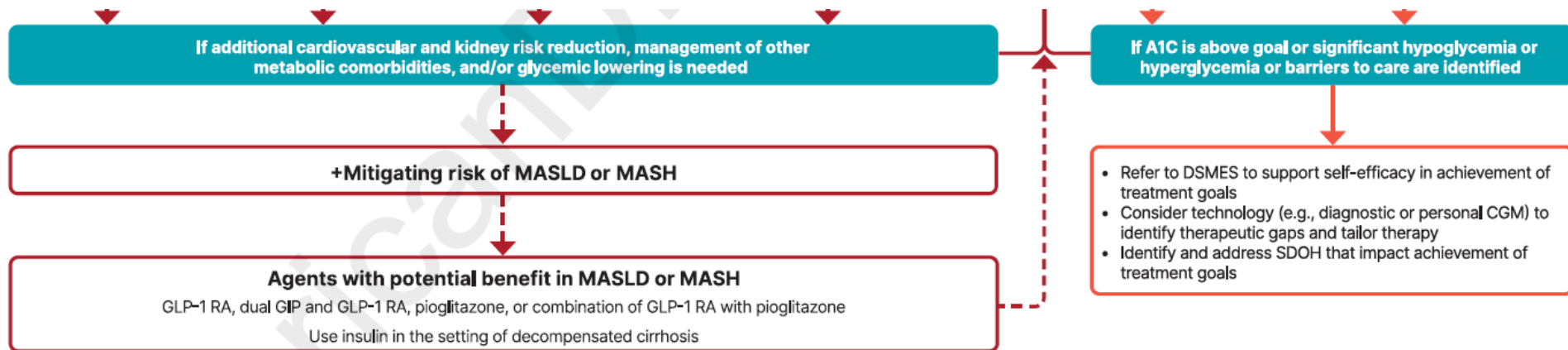
Goal

Achievement and
Maintenance of
Weight and Glycemic
Goals

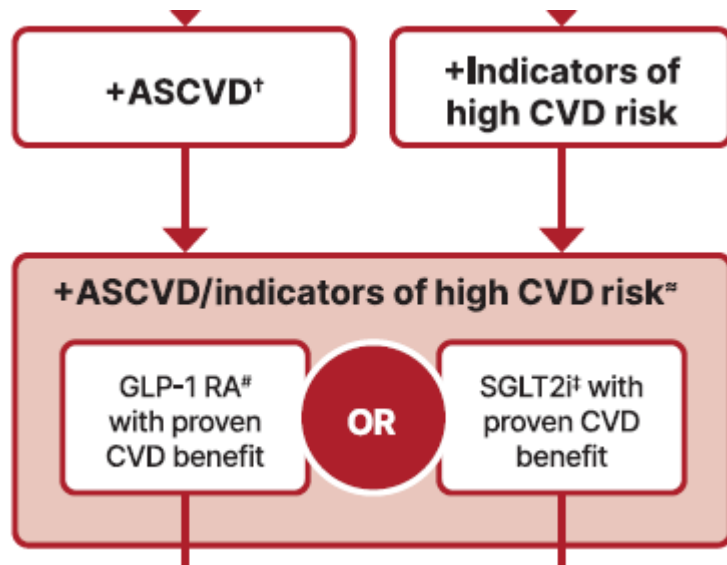
Type 2 DM management



Type 2 DM management



Cardiovascular Benefits



- Reduction in MACE (major adverse cardiovascular events)
- Preference in patients with ASCVD

GLP-1 RAs: Cardiovascular Outcomes

Trial	Drug	Established ASCVD (%)	Primary Endpoint and Results	NNT [^]
LEADER (<i>NEJM</i> 2016;375:3110)	Liraglutide (Victoza®) 1.5 mg daily or max tolerated	81.3	time to first 3-P MACE# 13.0% intervention vs. 14.9% placebo HR: 0.87 (0.78–0.97)	42
SUSTAIN-6 (<i>NEJM</i> 2016;375:1834)	Semaglutide (Ozempic®) 0.5-1.0 mg once weekly	58.8	time to first 3-P MACE# 6.6% intervention vs. 8.9% placebo HR 0.74 (0.58–0.95) (Primarily driven by stroke reduction)	17
REWIND (<i>Lancet</i> 2019;394:121)	Dulaglutide (Trulicity®) 1.5 mg once weekly	31.5	time to first 3-P MACE# 12% intervention vs. 13.4% placebo HR 0.88: (0.79–0.99)	71
EXSCEL (<i>NEJM</i> 2017;377:1228)	Exenatide (Bydureon®) 2 mg once weekly	73.1	time to first 3-P MACE# 11.4% intervention vs. 12.2% placebo HR: 0.91 (0.83–1.00)	125
PIONEER-6 (<i>NEJM</i> 2019;381:841-851)	Semaglutide (Rybelsus®) semaglutide 14 mg orally daily	84.6	time to first 3-P MACE# 3.8% intervention vs. 4.8% placebo HR: 0.79 (0.57–1.11)	100

#3-P MACE: death from CV causes, nonfatal myocardial infarction (MI), nonfatal stroke

[^] Composite of CV events

GLP-1 RAs: Cardiovascular Outcomes

Trial	Drug	Established ASCVD (%)	Primary Endpoint and Results	NNT [^]
LEADER (<i>NEJM</i> 2016;375:3110)	Liraglutide (Victoza®) 1.5 mg daily or max tolerated	81.3	time to first 3-P MACE# 13.0% intervention vs. 14.9% placebo HR: 0.87 (0.78–0.97)	42
SUSTAIN-6 (<i>NEJM</i> 2016;375:1834)	Semaglutide (Ozempic®) 0.5-1.0 mg once weekly		time to first 3-P MACE# % placebo 5) (Primarily driven by stroke reduction)	17
REWIND (<i>Lancet</i> 2019;394:121)	Dulaglutide (Trulicity®) 1.5 mg once weekly		time to first 3-P MACE# % placebo HR 0.88: (0.75–0.99)	71
EXSCEL (<i>NEJM</i> 2017;377:1228)	Exenatide (Bydureon®) 2 mg once weekly	73.1	time to first 3-P MACE# 11.4% intervention vs. 12.2% placebo HR: 0.91 (0.83–1.00)	125
PIONEER-6 (<i>NEJM</i> 2019;381:841-851)	Semaglutide (Rybelsus®) semaglutide 14 mg orally daily	84.6	time to first 3-P MACE# 3.8% intervention vs. 4.8% placebo HR: 0.79 (0.57–1.11)	100

#3-P MACE: death from CV causes, nonfatal myocardial infarction (MI), nonfatal stroke

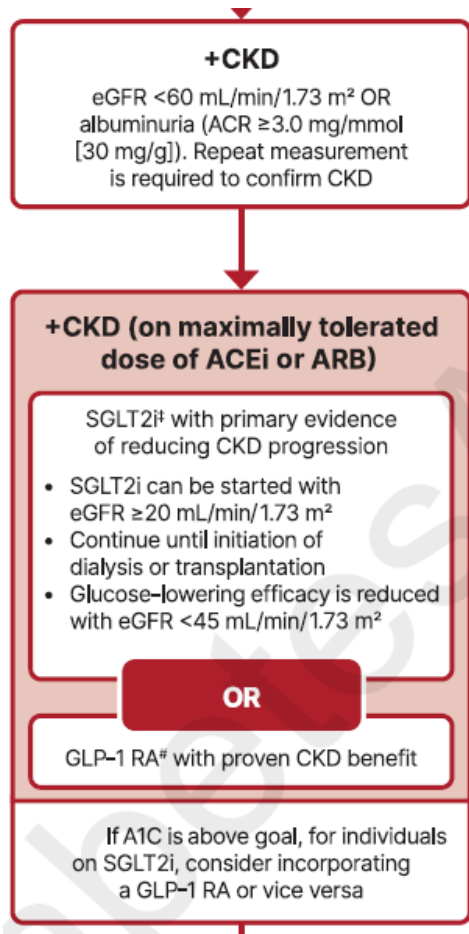
[^] Composite of CV events

GLP-1/GIP RAs: Cardiovascular Outcomes

Trial	Drug	Established ASCVD (%)	Primary Endpoint and Results	NNT [^]
SURPASS-CVOT (<i>NEJM</i> 2016;375:3110)	Tirzepatide (Mounjaro®) 15 mg once weekly or max tolerated compared to dulaglutide (Trulicity) 1.5 mg once weekly	83	time to first 3-P MACE# 9.1% tirzepatide vs. 9.9% dulaglutide HR: 0.92 (0.83–1.01)	125

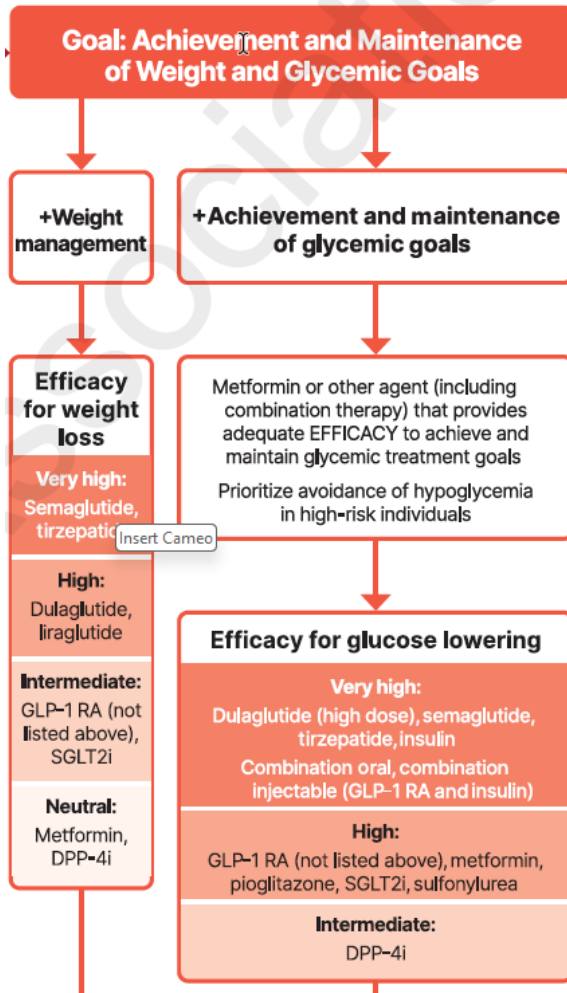
- It used an active comparator (dulaglutide) rather than placebo, which is uncommon in CVOTs

Renal Protection



- GLP-1 RAs have been shown to reduce albuminuria
- Liraglutide, dulaglutide, and semaglutide trials demonstrated reductions in composite renal outcomes
- GLP-1 RAs used in mild to moderate CKD without dose adjustments

Weight and Glycemic Benefits



- GLP-1 RAs are among the most effective non-insulin agents for A1C lowering
- Avg A1c reduction from baseline: 1.0–2.0%

Efficacy for Weight Loss

Very High

**Semaglutide
Tirzepatide**

High

**Dulaglutide
Liraglutide**

Intermediate

Exenatide

SGLT2 inhibitors

Efficacy for Glucose Lowering

Very High

Semaglutide
Dulaglutide (high dose)
Tirzepatide

Insulin
Combination oral,
Combination Injectable
(GLP-1 RA/Insulin)

High

Liraglutide
Exenatide

SGLT2 inhibitors

Metformin
Sulfonylureas
Thiazolidinediones

Intermediate

DPP-4 inhibitors



Chronic Weight Management

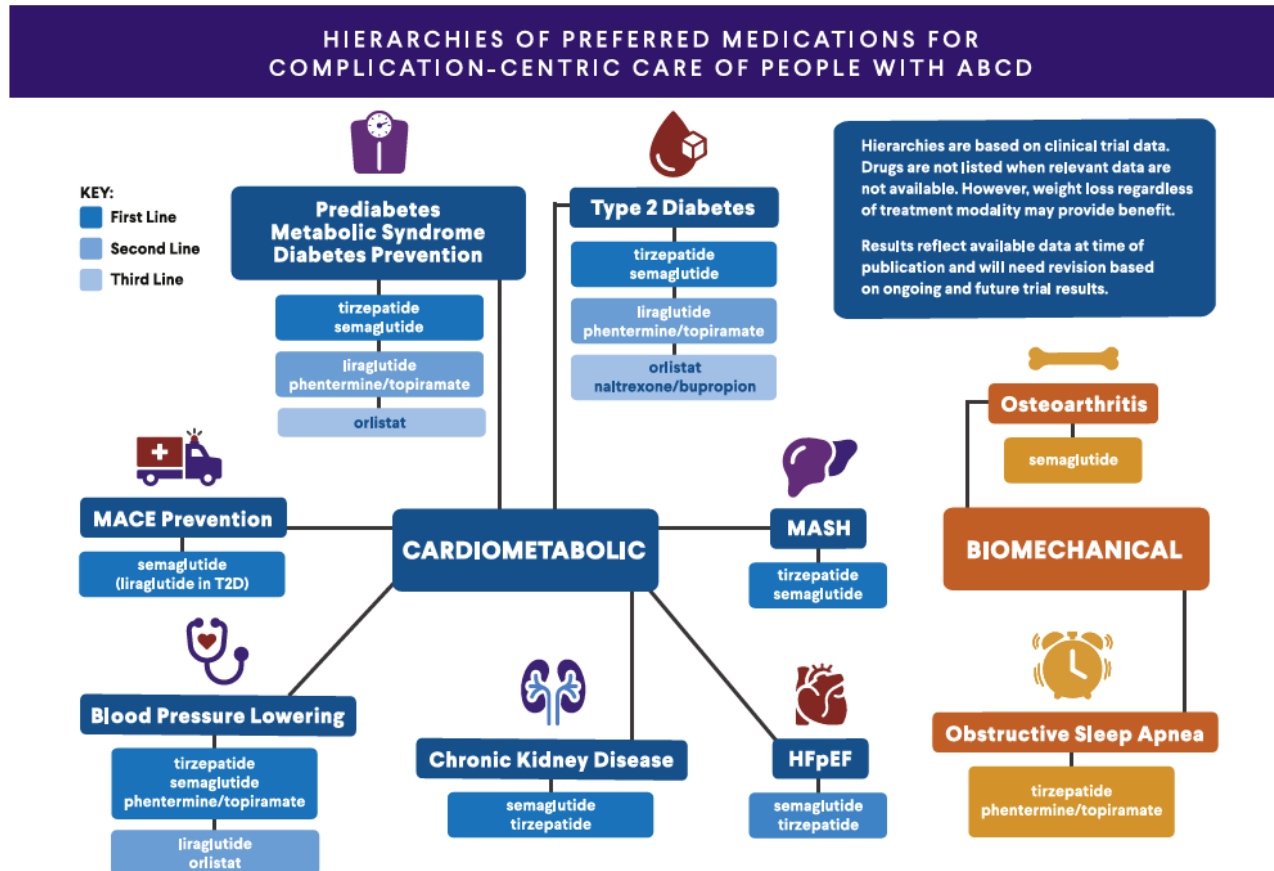
Obesity Management



WHO QUALIFIES FOR PHARMACOLOGIC TREATMENT?

- **Recommended for patients:**
 - BMI ≥ 30 kg/m²
 - BMI ≥ 27 kg/m² + weight-related comorbidity
- Should always be used as an **adjunct** to lifestyle modifications

AACE Preferred Medication Hierarchies



Abbreviations: ABCD, adiposity-based chronic disease; HfPEF, heart failure with preserved ejection fraction; MACE, major adverse cardiac events; MASH, metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis; T2D, type 2 diabetes

Algorithm Figure 8 - Preferred Medications Hierarchies

COPYRIGHT © 2025 AACE. May not be reproduced in any form without express written permission from Elsevier on behalf of AACE.

Visit doi.org/10.1016/j.eprac.2025.07.017 to request copyright permission.



GLP-1 and dual GLP-1/GIP RAs: Obesity Treatment

Medication	FDA Approval	Weight Loss
Liraglutide (Saxenda®)	2014	9.2% (56 weeks)
Semaglutide (Wegovy®)	2021	16.9% (68 weeks)
Tirzepatide (Zepbound®)	2023	22.5% (72 weeks)

Liraglutide (Saxenda)

A Randomized, Controlled Trial of 3.0 mg of Liraglutide in Weight Management (SCALE)



phase 3 double-blind RCT

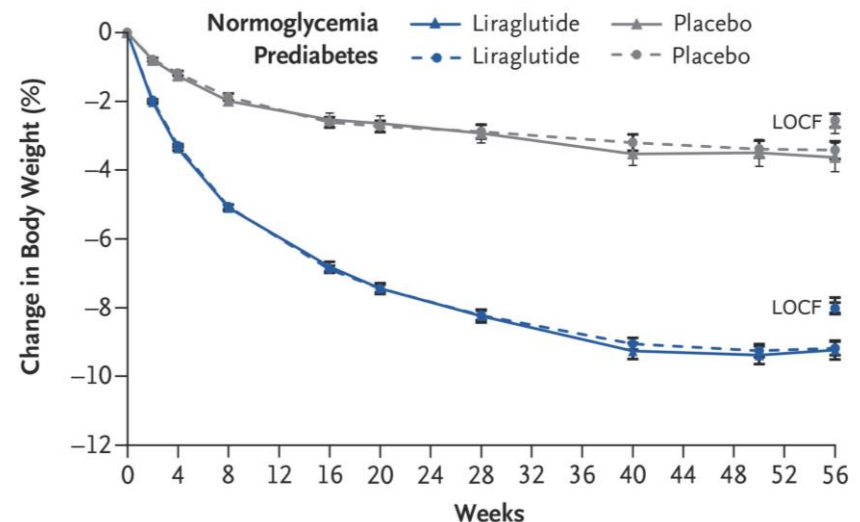
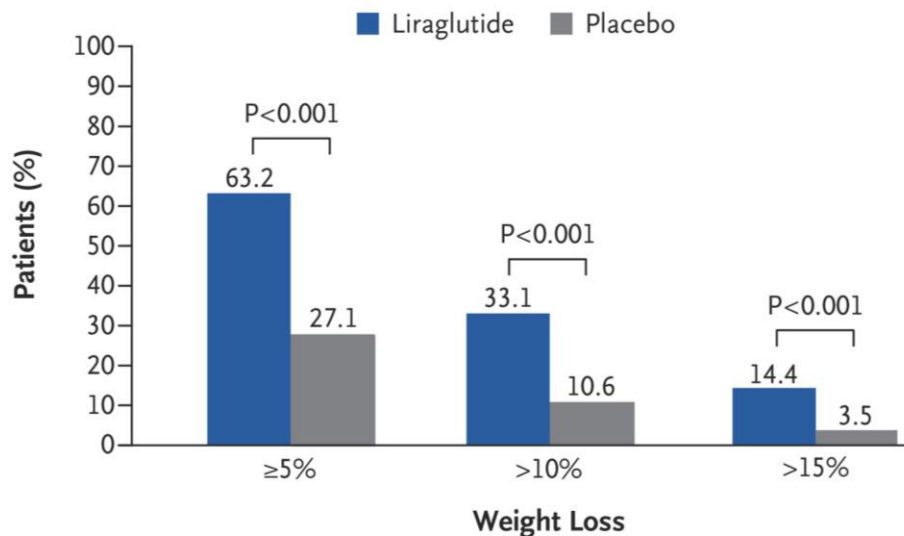


56 weeks



3,731 adults with BMI ≥ 30 or ≥ 27 + HTN or HLD

liraglutide 3 mg daily vs placebo

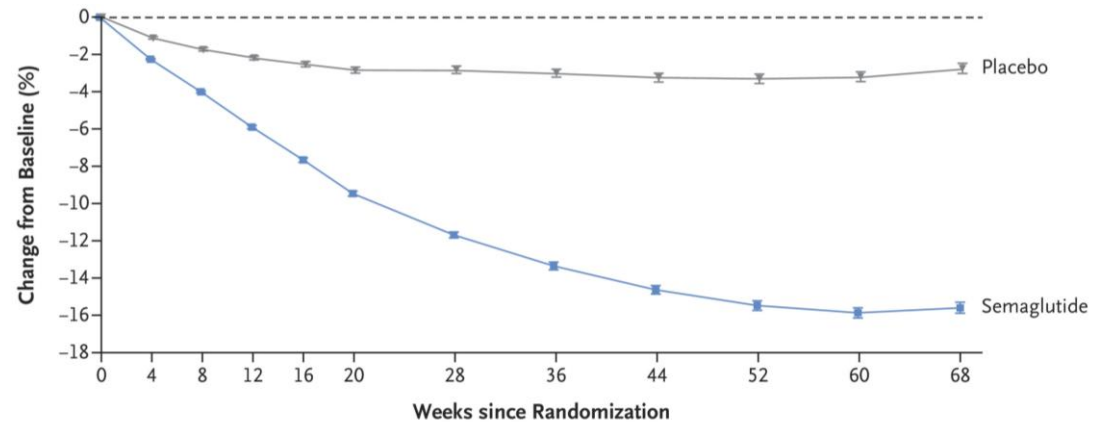
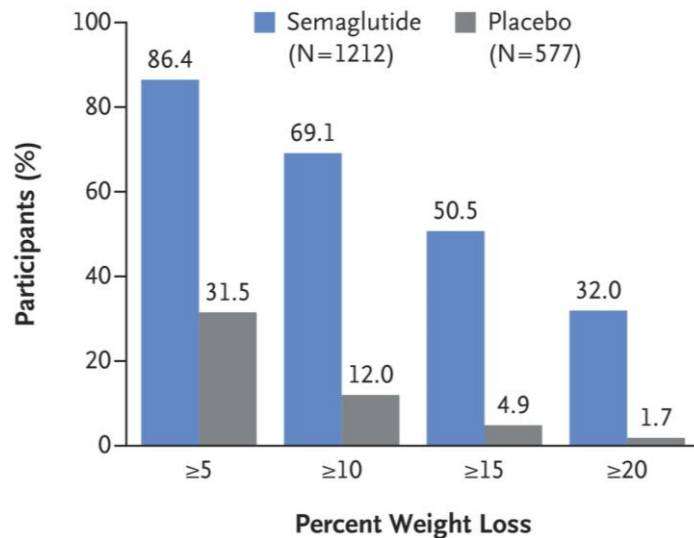


Semaglutide (Wegovy)

Once-Weekly Semaglutide in Adults with Overweight or Obesity (STEP 1)

✓ phase 3 double-blind RCT 📅 68 weeks 👤 1,961 adults with BMI ≥ 30 or ≥ 27 + ≥ 1 complication

semaglutide 2.4 mg weekly vs placebo



Semaglutide (Wegovy)

Weight Regain and Cardiometabolic Effects After Withdrawal of Semaglutide (STEP 1 Trial Extension)

 observational study  52 weeks  327 adults from Step 1 trial who stopped therapy

change in weight and cardiometabolic risk factors after treatment withdrawal in STEP 1 trial

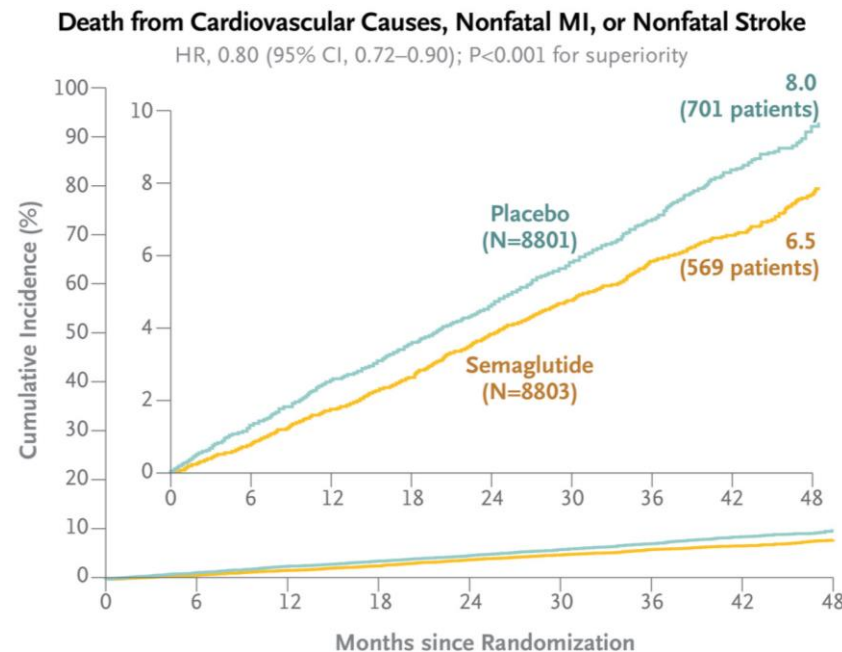
- After stopping semaglutide, participants **regained around two-thirds of prior weight loss**
- Semaglutide group maintained **mean weight loss of 5.6% from baseline at end of 120 weeks** compared with 0.1% loss in placebo group
- Cardiometabolic improvements seen from week 0 to week 68 with semaglutide **reverted towards baseline** at week 120 for most variables

Semaglutide (Wegovy)

Semaglutide and Cardiovascular Outcomes in Obesity without Diabetes (SELECT)

✓ double-blind superiority trial 39.8 months 17,604 adults age 45+ with preexisting CVD + BMI ≥ 27

semaglutide 2.4 mg weekly vs placebo



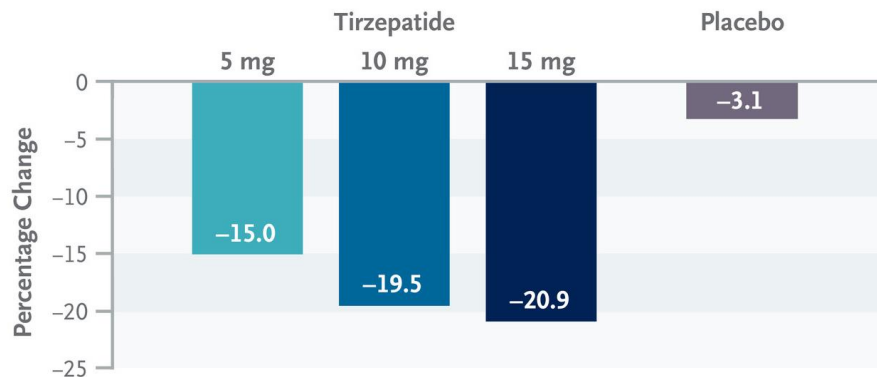
Tirzepatide (Zepbound)

Tirzepatide Once Weekly for the Treatment of Obesity (SURMOUNT-1)

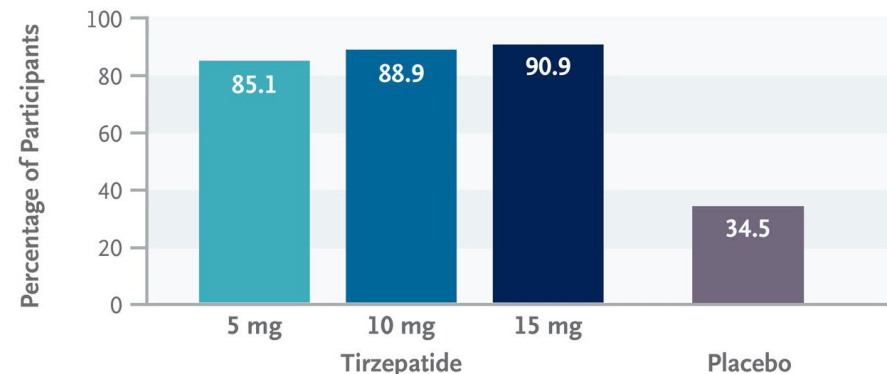
✓ phase 3 double-blind RCT 📅 72 weeks 👤 2,539 adults with BMI ≥ 30 or ≥ 27 + ≥ 1 complication

tirzepatide 5 mg, 10 mg, or 15 mg weekly vs placebo

Mean Weight Change at 72 Weeks

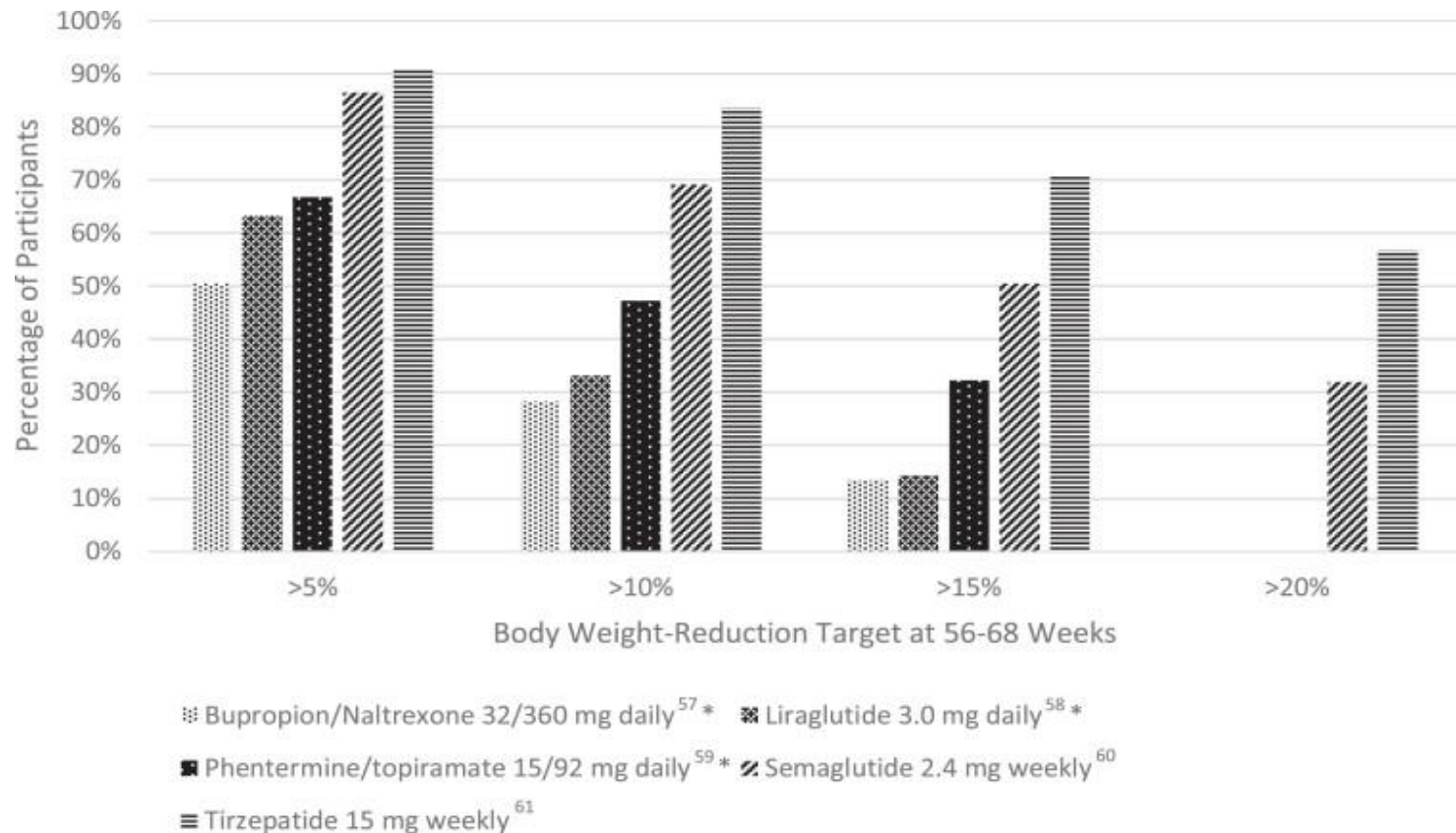


$\geq 5\%$ Weight Reduction at 72 Weeks



Medication Comparison

Percentage of study participants who met the following weight-reduction targets (>5, >10, >15, >20% weight loss) after 56-68 weeks of treatment



Pharmacologic Therapy Key Points

- First-line therapy is **always** non-pharmacologic
- Weight loss in clinical trials reflects **extensive lifestyle changes** in addition to medications and often **lack generalizability**
- Evaluate therapy **monthly** for safety and tolerability
- Stop medication if patient does not lose **> 5% of body weight after three months** of treatment

WEIGHT REGAIN AFTER MEDICATION DISCONTINUATION IS LIKELY UNLESS SUSTAINED LIFESTYLE MODIFICATIONS ARE IMPLEMENTED

Safety and Side Effects

GLP-1 and GLP-1/GIP RA

Contraindications

- Type 1 Diabetes
- Contraindicated in patients with personal or family history of medullary thyroid carcinoma (MTC)
 - Other thyroid cancers not a contraindication
- Patients with multiple endocrine neoplasia syndrome type 2 (MEN2)
- Do not use in patients with a history of pancreatitis



A note on pancreatitis

- Pancreatitis
 - Causality has not been established
 - Meta-analysis study found no significant increase in the risk of pancreatitis associated with the use of GLP-1 agonist.
 - Second meta-analysis concluded no significant difference than placebo arm
 - Few consider use if/after explainable cause of pancreatitis adequately managed

GLP-1 and GLP-1/GIP RA Precautions

- Gastroparesis
 - All GLP-1 RA slow gastric emptying
 - Use GLP-1 RAs with caution
- Bariatric surgery
 - Monitor for dehydration/nausea
 - Endogenous postprandial GLP-1 concentrations may be increased
- The American Society of Anesthesiologists recommends holding GLP-1 and GLP-1/GIP RAs before surgery to ↓ the risk of complications



GLP-1 RECEPTOR AGONISTS

ADVERSE EFFECTS

- **Common:**
 - GI: abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation, GERD
- **Rare:**
 - Diabetic retinopathy complications
 - Gallbladder disease
 - Hypersensitivity/injection site reaction
 - Pancreatitis
 - Tachycardia
- **US Boxed Warning:**
 - Risk of thyroid C-cell tumors

CLINICAL PEARLS



- Slow dose titration recommended to ↓ risk of GI side effects
 - Dietary modifications: smaller meal size, decrease high-fat or spicy food
 - Most symptoms are temporary
- Injection site reactions more common with exenatide
- The American Society of Anesthesiologists no longer recommends holding GLP-1 RAs for most before surgery to ↓ the risk of complications
- Monitor renal function when initiating or escalating doses in patients with renal impairment with severe adverse GI reactions

GLP-1/GIP RECEPTOR AGONISTS

ADVERSE EFFECTS

- **Common:**
 - GI: abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation, GERD
- **Rare:**
 - Diabetic retinopathy complications
 - Gallbladder disease
 - Hypersensitivity/injection site reaction
 - Pancreatitis
 - Tachycardia
- **US Boxed Warning:**
 - Risk of thyroid C-cell tumors

CLINICAL PEARLS



- Slow dose titration recommended to ↓ risk of GI side effects
 - Dietary modifications: smaller meal size, decrease high-fat or spicy food
 - Most symptoms are temporary
- The American Society of Anesthesiologists updated its guidance: most patients should NOT stop GLP-1/GIP receptor agonists (RAs) before elective surgery but should follow a 24-hour liquid diet beforehand
- Monitor renal function when initiating or escalating doses in patients with renal impairment with severe adverse GI reactions

Practical Considerations

Baseline labs and clinical evaluation

- Baseline Labs:
 - A1c
 - Renal function (eGFR) – when combining with SGLT2
 - Liver enzyme and lipids – for assessing metabolic status and comorbid conditions
 - Weight and BMI – evaluating therapy response if using for weight management
- Oral semaglutide
 - Review other meds that might interact with its absorption
- Review concurrent medications that could increase hypoglycemia risk (insulin, sulfonylureas)

Initiation and Titration

- Begin at the **lowest available** dose to minimize GI intolerance, then increase gradually every 4 weeks as tolerated
- Document baseline GI symptoms and establish a plan for monitoring tolerance
- Advise **smaller**, slower meals and to avoid high-fat or greasy foods during dose escalation
- Delay titration if GI side effects (nausea, vomiting) persists
- Consider antiemetic therapy briefly if needed, but most symptoms resolve with time

Follow-Up and Monitoring

- Initial follow-up
 - 2-4 weeks after initiation to assess tolerance, side effects, and injection technique
- Subsequent follow up
 - Monitor A1c (every 3-6 months), weight/BMI
 - Review GI symptoms and medication adherence
 - Consider renal function periodically (especially baseline CKD)
 - Evaluate whether glycemic or weight-loss targets are being met

Insurance Navigation - Diabetes

Medicaid

- Preferred agents covered with Prior Authorization (PA): Victoza, Trulicity, Ozempic
- Non-preferred agents may be covered with PA

Medicare

- Preferred agents vary by plan
- annual deductible (2025 max was \$590) then a monthly copay, often go into coverage gap later in year
- Not eligible for copay savings cards

Commercial

- Preferred agents vary by plan
- Eligible for copay savings cards

Insurance Navigation - Obesity

Medicaid

- Not covered

Medicare

- Not covered

Commercial

- Varies by plan

Cost assistance

Generic name	Brand name	Generic Available?	Copay card available?	Link to copay card	Patient Assistance Program
liraglutide	Victoza (diabetes)	Yes	No		Yes for uninsured or Medicare with income below 400%. No OOP requirements for Medicare patients. Will not help patients with commercial insurance and a high copay
	Saxenda (weight loss)	No	copay as little as \$25 or save up to \$200 per 30 day supply prescription. Uninsured patients can also save \$200 per fill	Saxenda	

Cost assistance

Generic name	Brand name	Generic Available?	Copay card available?	Link to copay card	Patient Assistance Program
semaglutide	Ozempic (diabetes)	No	copay as little as \$25; up to \$100 in savings per 30 day supply prescription. For CI patients where the e-voucher doesn't kick in due to the high copay, you can still enter the copay card manually to apply	Ozempic	Yes for uninsured or Medicare with income below 400%. No OOP requirements for Medicare patients. Will not help patients with commercial insurance and a high copay
	Wegovy (weight loss)	No	copay as little as \$25 or save up to \$225 per 28 day supply prescription. Patients with commercial insurance but no coverage for Wegovy, or non-government beneficiaries can save up to \$500 per fill	Wegovy	No
	Rybelsus	No	copay as little as \$10 for a 1- , 2 - , or 3-month prescription; maximum savings of \$300 per 1 month supply, \$600 per 2 month supply, or \$900 per 3 month supply.	Rybelsus	Yes for uninsured or Medicare with income below 400%. No OOP requirements for Medicare patients. Will not help patients with commercial insurance and a high copay

Cost assistance

Generic name	Brand name	Generic Available?	Copay card available?	Link to copay card	Patient Assistance Program
dulaglutide	Trulicity	No	Must have coverage through commercial insurance to pay as little as \$25 for up to 12 pens. Copay card for Trulicity will cover up to \$150 after patient pays the first \$25. Monthly cap \$150, annual cap \$1800. <i>Copay card is e-mailed to patient, not available immediately online.</i>	Trulicity	No
exenatide	Byetta	No	copay as little as \$25, maximum of \$100 covered	Byetta	Yes for uninsured or Medicare with income below 300%. No OOP requirements for Medicare patients. Will not help patients with commercial insurance and a high copay
	Bydureon Bcise	No	copy as low as \$0 with max \$150 covered	Bydureon	

Cost assistance

Generic name	Brand name	Generic Available?	Copay card available?	Link to copay card	Patient Assistance Program
tirzepatide	Mounjaro (diabetes)	No	Copay card for Mounjaro for commercial insurance patients whose plans covers the drug will cover up to \$150 for one month, \$300 for 2 months or \$450 for 3 months after patient pays the first \$25. Annual cap \$1800. For commercial insurance patients denied coverage for Mounjaro, the card will pay \$575 per fill up to a maximum of \$3450 per year	Mounjaro	No
	Zepbound (weight loss)(sleep apnea)	No	For patients with commercial drug insurance coverage for Zepbound: You must have commercial drug insurance that covers Zepbound™(tirzepatide) and a prescription consistent with FDA-approved product labeling to pay as little as \$25 for a 1-month, 2-month, or 3-month prescription fill of Zepbound. Card savings subject to maximum monthly savings of up to \$150 per 1-month prescription, \$300 per 2-month prescription, or \$450 per 3-month prescription fill and maximum annual savings of up to \$1,800 per calendar year. Patients who have commercial drug insurance that does not cover Zepbound can obtain savings of up to \$469 off your 1-month prescription fill of Zepbound. Month is defined as 28-days and up to 4 pens. Card savings are subject to a maximum monthly savings of up to \$469 and a separate maximum annual savings of up to \$6,097 per calendar year	Zepbound	No

Future Directions

Future Directions

- Pipeline Medications
 - Triple agonists (GLP-1/GIP/glucagon) – retatrutide
 - Amylin analogue – cagrilintide
- Combination Therapies
 - GLP-1 + SGLT2 inhibitors
- Expanding Indications
 - NAFLD/NASH treatment

Questions?



Allison Bernard,
Pharm D, BCACP

Allison-m-
Bernard@uiowa.edu

CHANGING
MEDICINE.
CHANGING LIVES.®

—
Thank you

Allison Bernard,
Pharm D, BCACP

Allison-m-
Bernard@uiowa.edu

