



AETNA BETTER HEALTH®  
Coverage Policy/Guideline

Name:	Wegovy (semaglutide injection) Cardiovascular	Page:	1 of 3
Effective Date:	5/1/2025	Last Review Date:	2/24/2025
Applies to:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Illinois <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maryland		

**Intent:**

The intent of this policy/guideline is to provide information to the prescribing practitioner outlining the coverage criteria for Wegovy under the patient's prescription drug benefit.

**Description:**

FDA-Approved Indication

- Wegovy is indicated in combination with a reduced calorie diet and increased physical activity to reduce the risk of major adverse cardiovascular events (cardiovascular death, non-fatal myocardial infarction, or non-fatal stroke) in adults with established cardiovascular disease and either obesity or overweight.
- Wegovy is indicated in combination with a reduced calorie diet and increased physical activity to reduce excess body weight and maintain weight reduction long term in:
  - Adults and pediatric patients aged 12 years and older with obesity (*Not a Covered Benefit*)
  - Adults with overweight in the presence of at least one weight-related comorbid condition (*Not a Covered Benefit*)

Limitation of Use

Wegovy contains semaglutide. Coadministration with other semaglutide-containing products or with any other GLP-1 receptor agonist is not recommended.

**Use of Wegovy for the indication of weight loss only is an excluded benefit and will not be covered.**

**Applicable Drug List:**

Wegovy

**Policy/Guideline:**

**Criteria for Initial Approval:**

Risk Reduction of Major Adverse Cardiovascular Events

Authorization may be granted when the requested drug is being used to reduce the risk of major adverse cardiovascular events (cardiovascular death, non-fatal myocardial infarction (MI), or non-fatal stroke) in an adult with established cardiovascular disease AND either obesity or overweight when ALL of the following criteria are met:

- The request is for Wegovy (semaglutide).
- The requested drug is being used with a reduced-calorie diet AND increased physical activity.
- The patient has established cardiovascular disease with a history of ONE of the following: [Documentation is required for approval.]
  - Previous MI.



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- Previous stroke.
- Symptomatic peripheral arterial disease (PAD), as evidenced by intermittent claudication with ankle-brachial index (ABI) less than 0.85 (at rest), peripheral arterial revascularization procedure, or amputation due to atherosclerotic disease.
- Prior history of revascularization (coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG), percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI), or angioplasty).
- The patient has a baseline body mass index (BMI) greater than or equal to 27 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.  
[Documentation is required for approval.]
  - NOTE: If the patient is transitioning from another drug therapy for weight loss, please consider their baseline BMI at the start of any drug therapy.
- The patient does NOT have type 2 diabetes.
  - NOTE: Ozempic is indicated to reduce the risk of major cardiovascular events in adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus and established cardiovascular disease. Patients with type 2 diabetes may be treated for risk reduction of cardiovascular events with Ozempic.
- The patient is currently receiving guideline-directed management and therapy (GDMT) for cardiovascular disease (e.g., lipid-lowering agent, antiplatelet, beta-blocker, renin-angiotensin inhibitor, etc.) OR the patient has clinical reason not to be treated with GDMT for cardiovascular disease.  
[Documentation is required for approval.]

### Continuation of Therapy

#### Risk Reduction of Major Adverse Cardiovascular Events

Authorization may be granted when the requested drug is being used to reduce the risk of major adverse cardiovascular events (cardiovascular death, non-fatal myocardial infarction (MI), or non-fatal stroke) in an adult with established cardiovascular disease AND either obesity or overweight when ALL of the following criteria are met:

- The request is for Wegovy (semaglutide).
- The requested drug is being used with a reduced-calorie diet AND increased physical activity.
- The patient has established cardiovascular disease with a history of ONE of the following:
  - Previous MI.
  - Previous stroke.
  - Symptomatic peripheral arterial disease (PAD), as evidenced by intermittent claudication with ankle-brachial index (ABI) less than 0.85 (at rest), peripheral arterial revascularization procedure, or amputation due to atherosclerotic disease.



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- Prior history of revascularization (coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG), percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI), or angioplasty).
- The patient is being treated with a maintenance dosage of the requested drug

**Approval Duration and Quantity Restrictions:**

**Initial Approval:** 7 months

**Renewal Approval:** 12 months

**Quantity Level Limit:**

Drug	Dosage	1 Month Limit
Wegovy (semaglutide)	0.25 mg/0.5 mL	2 mL (1 package of 4 pens each) / 30 days
	0.5 mg/0.5 mL	
	1 mg/0.5 mL	
	1.7 mg/0.75 mL	3 mL (1 package of 4 pens each) / 30 days
	2.4 mg/0.75 mL	

**References:**

1. Wegovy [package insert]. Plainsboro, NJ: Novo Nordisk Inc.; March 2024.
2. Lexicomp Online, AHFS DI (Adult and Pediatric) Online. Waltham, MA: UpToDate, Inc.; 2024. <https://online.lexi.com>. Accessed June 28, 2024.
3. Micromedex® (electronic version). Merative, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA. Available at: <https://www.micromedexsolutions.com/> (cited: 06/28/2024).
4. Lincoff AM, Brown-Frandsen K, Colhoun HM, et al. Semaglutide and Cardiovascular Outcomes in Obesity without Diabetes. N Engl J Med. 2023;389:2221-2232.
5. Virani SS, Newby LK, Arnold SV, et al. 2023 AHA/ACC/ACCP/ASPC/NLA/PCNA Guideline for the Management of Patients With Chronic Coronary Disease: A Report of the American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology Joint Committee on Clinical Practice Guidelines. Circulation. 2023;148:e9-e119.
6. Kleindorfer DO, Towfighi A, Chaturvedi S, et al. 2021 Guideline for the Prevention of Stroke in Patients With Stroke and Transient Ischemic Attack: A Guideline From the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association. Stroke. 2021;52(7):e364-e467.
7. Gornik HL, Aronow HD, Goodney PP, et al. 2024 ACC/AHA/AACVPR/APMA/ABC/SCAI/SVM/SVN/SVS/SIR/VESS Guideline for the Management of Lower Extremity Peripheral Artery Disease: A Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Joint Committee on Clinical Practice Guidelines. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2024;83(24):2497-2604.