

Novo Nordisk Response to NBC 7

Important Background:

- **Our position on responsible use:** Novo Nordisk is committed to the responsible use of our medicines. We are taking multiple steps to ensure responsible use of our semaglutide medicines which are detailed in [this website](#).
- Although Wegovy® and Ozempic® both contain semaglutide, they are different products with different indications, dosages, prescribing information, titration schedules, and delivery forms. The products are not interchangeable and should not be used outside of their approved indications.
 - Ozempic® (semaglutide) is FDA-approved for the treatment of type 2 diabetes, to improve blood sugar, along with diet and exercise, and reduce the risk of major cardiovascular events such as heart attack, stroke, or death in adults with type 2 diabetes and known heart disease. Ozempic® is not approved for chronic weight management. Please see Ozempic® full prescribing information [here](#).
 - Wegovy® (semaglutide) injection 2.4 mg is FDA approved in combination with a reduced calorie diet and increased physical activity to reduce the risk of major cardiovascular events such as death, heart attack, and stroke in adults with known heart disease and either obesity or overweight; and to help adults and children aged ≥ 12 years with obesity, or some adults with overweight with weight-related medical problems, lose excess body weight and keep it off. Please see Wegovy® full prescribing information [here](#).

Side Effects:

- **Common Side Effects:**

At Novo Nordisk, we prioritize patient safety and will continue to collaborate closely with the FDA and other regulatory authorities to monitor the safety of all our GLP-1RA medicines. We stand behind the safety and efficacy of all of our GLP-1RA medicines when they are used as indicated and when taken under the care of a licensed healthcare professional. The known risks associated with use of these medicines are reflected in their current FDA-approved product labeling.

- For Ozempic® specifically, the most common side effects may include: nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, stomach (abdominal) pain, and constipation. Full prescribing information for Ozempic® is available [here](#).
- For Wegovy® specifically, the most common side effects may include: nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, constipation, stomach (abdomen) pain, headache, tiredness (fatigue), upset stomach, dizziness, feeling bloated, belching, gas, stomach flu, heartburn, runny nose or sore throat. Full prescribing information for Wegovy® is available [here](#).
- For Rybelsus® specifically, the most common side effects may include: nausea, stomach (abdominal) pain, diarrhea, decreased appetite, vomiting, and constipation. Full prescribing information for Rybelsus® is available [here](#).
- For Saxenda® specifically, the most common side effects may include: nausea, diarrhea, constipation, vomiting, injection site reaction, low blood sugar (hypoglycemia), headache, tiredness (fatigue), dizziness, stomach pain, and change in enzyme (lipase) levels in your blood. Additional common side effects in children are fever and gastroenteritis. Full prescribing information for Saxenda® is available [here](#).

- For Victoza® specifically, the most common side effects may include nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, decreased appetite, indigestion, and constipation. Full prescribing information for Victoza® is available [here](#).
- **Suicidal Ideation:**
Independent research, preliminary findings from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and conclusions from a European Medicines Agency (EMA) analysis did not find an association between use of GLP-1RA medicines and the occurrence of increased risk of suicidal thoughts or actions. These findings align with data collected from our comprehensive clinical trials, including large-scale outcomes and observational studies.

Below is additional background information:

- In the US, FDA requires medications for chronic weight management like Wegovy® and Saxenda® to carry a warning about suicidal behavior and ideation. This information is also included in the labels of other types of anti-obesity medicines and is based on reports of such events observed with a variety of older medicines used or tested for weight loss.
- Novo Nordisk is continuously performing surveillance of the data from ongoing clinical trials and real-world use of its products and collaborates closely with authorities to ensure patient safety and adequate information to healthcare professionals.
- **Stomach paralysis:**
Gastroparesis is a clinical syndrome characterized by delayed gastric emptying in the absence of mechanical obstruction of the stomach. While diabetes is a well-known risk factor, there are other risk factors that may increase the risk of gastroparesis such as overweight/obesity, gender (female), virus infection and nervous systems disease (Parkinson's disease or multiple sclerosis).

Gastrointestinal (GI) events are well-known side effects of the GLP-1 class. For semaglutide, the majority of GI side effects are mild to moderate in severity and of short duration. GLP-1's are known to cause a delay in gastric emptying, as noted in the label of each of our GLP-1 RA medications. Symptoms of delayed gastric emptying, nausea and vomiting are listed as side effects.

- **Thyroid cancer:**
To date, safety data from randomized controlled trials, long term cardiovascular outcomes trials, meta-analyses and real-world evidence evaluating the efficacy and safety of GLP-1 receptor agonists have not shown a causal relationship between use of GLP-1 receptor agonists and risk of thyroid tumors.

Novo Nordisk remains confident in the benefit risk profile of its products and remains committed to ensuring patient safety.

For background information, it's important for you to be aware that all long-acting GLP-1 receptor agonists have a Boxed Warning in their labels for risk of thyroid c-cell tumors, a specific type of thyroid cancer. While GLP-1 receptor agonists caused thyroid tumors,

including thyroid cancer, in studies with rodents, it is not known if GLP-1 receptor agonists will cause thyroid tumors or a type of thyroid cancer called medullary thyroid carcinoma in people.

Supply:

- **Ozempic Supply:**

All doses of Ozempic® are currently available in the U.S., including the 0.25/0.5 mg, 1 mg and 2mg pens of Ozempic® for patients with type 2 diabetes across the U.S.

- **Wegovy Supply:**

Novo Nordisk continues to supply all Wegovy® dose strengths to the U.S. market.

Four of the five dose strengths (0.5 mg, 1 mg, 1.7 mg and 2.4 mg) are now available but we will continue to manage shipments of the 0.25 mg starting dose of Wegovy®, to responsibly initiate patients on treatment consistent with our commitment to patients and focus on continuity of care.

We have served over one million U.S. patients with Wegovy® and total weekly prescriptions have more than doubled since January 2024. We take our responsibility to meet the needs of people living with obesity and the healthcare professionals who treat them very seriously. We have made significant progress improving Wegovy® supply while maintaining a clear focus on supporting patients who require care to start and stay on this medicine. We continue to expand our global production capacity, which has been running 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We will invest DKK 45 billion in capital expenditures this year, compared to DKK 25 billion in 2023. The API used in Novo Nordisk's FDA-approved semaglutide medicines is manufactured exclusively by Novo Nordisk and is not obtained from a third-party supplier. We do not directly or indirectly provide or sell bulk semaglutide to compounding pharmacies or any other entity for the purposes of compounding "semaglutide" products.

We are here to drive change for people living with this misunderstood, stigmatized disease, and partner broadly to break down barriers to obesity care. Detailed information about U.S. Wegovy® supply is available on [WegovySupply.com](https://www.wegovy.com/supply), which is updated as new information becomes available.

Pricing

The US healthcare system is complex, with rebates, discounts, administrative fees, co-pays, and deductibles – all of which play a role in what people will pay for medicines. To help ensure patients in the US have access to all our medicines, 75% of our gross US sales goes to rebates and discounts reimbursed to insurance companies and other payers.

The net price of Ozempic® has declined by 40% since launch in the US and Wegovy is following a similar trajectory. Additionally, in the US, 80% of Ozempic® and Wegovy® patients with commercial insurance pay zero to \$25 a month.

We recognize that affordability challenges are real for many patients and not all situations are the same. To help as many patients as possible, Novo Nordisk continues to offer a variety of affordability options for people with or without insurance. Details on our affordability offerings are available

here: [Access & affordability \(novonordisk-us.com\)](https://www.novonordisk-us.com). Patients should visit [NovoCare.com](https://www.novocare.com) for more information.

- **Ozempic® Price:** Management of diabetes is typically covered by private insurance plans, Medicare and Medicaid. Out-of-pocket costs for Ozempic® depend on a patient's insurance coverage. Patients with private or commercial coverage for Ozempic® can access a savings offer and pay as little as \$25 for a 1-month, 2-month, or 3-month supply of Ozempic® for up to 24 months. The list price of Ozempic® is \$968.52/month. Although, most people don't pay list price if they have health insurance and Novo Nordisk has worked to ensure Ozempic is covered by 99% of commercial insurance plans in the United States. Ozempic® is the lowest cost once-weekly GLP-1 medicine on the market in the United States.
- **Wegovy® Price:** Wegovy® has a U.S. list price of \$1,349.02, which includes a 28-day supply of 4 pens, dosed once-weekly. For Wegovy®, the US list price is not indicative of what a patient will pay out-of-pocket when treatment is covered by insurance. Novo Nordisk provides a savings offer for commercially insured patients to pay as little as \$0 per 28-day supply with a maximum benefit of \$225. If you pay cash for your prescriptions or your commercial insurance does not cover Wegovy®, with our latest cash offer you can pay \$650 per 28-day supply (1 box) of Wegovy®. The offer is good for thirteen 28-day supply fills. Today, there are approximately 110 million adult Americans living with obesity and approximately 50 million of them have coverage for anti-obesity medicines.

Side Effects Lawsuit:

We are sympathetic to these patients' health journeys. Patient safety is our top priority at Novo Nordisk, and we work closely with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to continuously monitor the safety profile of our medicines.

GLP-1 medicines have been used to treat type 2 diabetes for more than 19 years, and for the treatment of obesity for almost 10 years. This includes Novo Nordisk GLP-1 products such as semaglutide and liraglutide that have been on the market for more than 13 years. Semaglutide has been extensively examined in robust clinical development programs, large real world evidence studies and has cumulatively over 9.5 million patient years of clinical experience.

The known risks and benefits of semaglutide and liraglutide medicines are described in their FDA-approved product labeling. Novo Nordisk stands behind the safety and efficacy of all of our GLP-1 medicines when they are used as indicated and when they are taken under the care of a licensed healthcare professional.

Novo Nordisk believes that the allegations in this lawsuit is without merit, and we intend to vigorously defend against these claims.

Compounded Semaglutide:

Our main concern and top priority is patient safety, and we are supportive of the multiple safety alerts that the FDA recently issued regarding the safety risks posed by unapproved compounded drugs that claim to contain semaglutide (which can be found [here](#) and [here](#)). It's important that patients are aware that Novo Nordisk is the only company in the U.S. with FDA-approved medicines containing semaglutide.

FDA has not approved any generic versions of semaglutide. The API used in Novo Nordisk's FDA-approved semaglutide medicines is manufactured exclusively by Novo Nordisk and is not obtained from a third-party supplier. We do not directly or indirectly provide or sell bulk semaglutide to compounding pharmacies or any other entity for the purposes of compounding "semaglutide" products. Telehealth providers and compounding pharmacies that are claiming to offer or sell unapproved compounded "semaglutide" products are sourcing their ingredients from entities other than Novo Nordisk.

As the FDA has cautioned, unapproved compounded "semaglutide" drugs do not have the same safety, quality, and effectiveness assurances as Novo Nordisk's FDA-approved semaglutide medicines, and patients should not use a compounded drug if an approved drug is available. FDA has also warned that it has received an increased number of adverse event reports and complaints after patients used unapproved compounded products claiming to contain semaglutide.

Novo Nordisk has filed 40 lawsuits nationwide against medical spas, weight-loss clinics and compounding pharmacies engaging in unlawful marketing and sales of compounded drugs claiming to contain "semaglutide." Details on some of our legal actions can be found [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)). Consistent with our commitment to patient safety, Novo Nordisk will continue to pursue legal action against other entities engaged in similar conduct.

Additional information for background:

- Based on data as of June 30, 2024, the FDA's Adverse Event Reporting System (FAERS) database includes 542 cases of adverse events associated with compounded "semaglutide." Of those cases, 388 were classified as "serious" adverse events, and 10 involved deaths.
- Novo Nordisk maintains a website (found [here](#)) and has distributed a Dear Doctor letter (found [here](#)) that provide information to patients, HCPs, and caregiver communities about our FDA-approved medicines containing semaglutide and educate about the responsible use of Novo's semaglutide medicines and the potential risks associated with unapproved compounded "semaglutide" drugs.

Relationships with HCPs:

Novo Nordisk believes that responsible engagement between pharmaceutical companies and the medical community is good for patients and advances care and science. To prevent and defeat a serious chronic condition like obesity, we need to do more than supply the right medicine. This is why we work with medical professionals, institutions and other experts to conduct research, raise awareness, improve disease prevention, promote earlier diagnosis and expand access to care. These independent experts have valuable insights and often work with many diverse organizations and institutions. Consistent with our values and high ethical standards, we are transparent about these interactions, related appropriate spending, and why we engage with experts.

Stigma:

Decades ago, Novo Nordisk took a stand that obesity is a disease, and the shame in our society needs to stop. It's not just about effective medicines but other real barriers like stigma and bias. Because obesity is not a personal failing; it's a matter of health – and people deserve respect, support, and care. Obesity puts people at risk for more than 60 other health conditions, including heart disease. This is why medical intervention can be important for people who have tried numerous times to lose weight but have not been able to keep it off. Obesity is a public health

epidemic, and it will take everyone - doctors, media, friends, and family - working together to create understanding, empathy, and meaningful change.

Future of GLP-1 medications:

For more than 100 years, Novo Nordisk has been innovating for people living with diabetes, rare diseases such as hemophilia, and obesity. With this legacy, we have developed the expertise and capabilities to help defeat other chronic diseases. It excites us to explore how we can help address unmet needs for even more patients living with these chronic conditions, as well as other diseases such as cardiovascular disease, metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis (MASH) and Alzheimer's disease, among others.

Additional background information that might be helpful on clinical investigations of semaglutide for chronic disease:

- Novo Nordisk is therefore investigating the potential benefits of semaglutide in two large Alzheimer's disease phase 3 clinical trials called evoke and evoke+. You can find more information about the trials on [novonordisk.com](https://www.novonordisk.com).
- Preclinical data combined with clinical evidence based on post-hoc analysis from Novo Nordisk cardiovascular outcomes trials (CVOT) and independent real-world databases with liraglutide and semaglutide treatment was associated with reduced incidence of all-cause dementia

You can find relevant information in the Q1 2024 investor presentation here: [Q1 2024 Presentation—Page 59 \(novonordisk.com\)](#) (note that there is additional information throughout the presentation beyond just this slide) and in our 2023 annual report (page 27) here: [Novo Nordisk Annual Report 2023 \(PDF\)](#).

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