

Perspectives from Novo Nordisk

We are a healthcare company with a 100-year history of innovation in developing medicines to treat serious chronic diseases like diabetes and obesity. Through science, patient insights and partnerships, we believe we can drive change that will make peoples' lives better by helping improve their health and reach their own greatest human potential.

The development of semaglutide is an example of our commitment to innovation for people living with chronic diseases. Semaglutide is the foundational molecule which serves as the primary ingredient for Novo Nordisk's prescription-only, FDA-approved medicines: Wegovy® (semaglutide) injection 2.4 mg for chronic weight management and Ozempic® (semaglutide) injection 0.5 mg, 1 mg, or 2 mg and Rybelsus® (semaglutide) tablets 7 mg or 14 mg for adults with type 2 diabetes. We believe the semaglutide molecule represents a significant scientific advancement that has helped many people reach their treatment goals since its launch in 2018.

At Novo Nordisk, patient safety is paramount. We've been closely monitoring how semaglutide — Ozempic® and Wegovy® in particular — are being broadly discussed in both mainstream and social media. With this, we're concerned about certain accounts from public media and social channels, including reports of off-label use of semaglutide for purely cosmetic or aesthetic weight loss; unauthorized versions of "semaglutide" of unknown origin being sold in the market; Ozempic® and Wegovy® being promoted by third-parties for uses inconsistent with their approved indications; and insufficient clinical evaluations by some telehealth providers promoting semaglutide-based products for weight loss.

As a result of these unprecedented dynamics and high demand for semaglutide products, we believe it is our responsibility to continue to raise awareness, to reinforce responsible use of our medicines and, ultimately, to support patient safety and positive clinical outcomes.

About Semaglutide Products

Wegovy®, Ozempic®, and Rybelsus® are prescription-only medicines that should only be used for appropriate patients consistent with their FDA-approved label. These medicines should be prescribed in direct consultation with, and under the supervision of, a licensed healthcare professional. Wegovy®, Ozempic® and Rybelsus® have been extensively studied in clinical trials and are FDA-approved for the treatment of patients with serious chronic diseases.

- Wegovy® is indicated for chronic weight management in adults and children aged ≥12 years with obesity (BMI ≥30 for adults, BMI ≥ 95th percentile for age and sex for children), or some adults with excess weight (BMI ≥27) (overweight) with weight-related medical problems along with a reduced calorie meal plan and increased physical activity.
- Ozempic® and Rybelsus® are indicated for adults with type 2 diabetes to improve blood sugar (glucose), along with diet and exercise. Ozempic® also lowers the risk of major cardiovascular events such as stroke, heart attack or death in adults with type 2 diabetes and known heart disease.

Each medication has a unique safety and efficacy profile which is detailed in its respective product label. Importantly, Ozempic® and Rybelsus® are not FDA-approved for the treatment of chronic weight management, and none of these medicines — including Wegovy® — should be used for cosmetic weight loss. We support our medicines being prescribed to patients who meet the indicated criteria and only promote the FDA-approved indications of our medicines for appropriate patients.

Compounding Pharmacies and Semaglutide

We are aware that several compounding pharmacies, weight loss clinics and medical spas are claiming to sell or offer compounded semaglutide products. Novo Nordisk is actively monitoring and taking action against these entities that are engaging in the unlawful sale of compounded semaglutide, disseminating false advertising, and infringing its trademarks. Novo Nordisk is the only company in the U.S. with FDA-approved products containing semaglutide, identified under the trade names Wegovy®, Ozempic® and Rybelsus®. No FDA-approved generic versions of semaglutide currently exist.

Compounded products do not have the same safety, quality and effectiveness assurances as our FDA-approved drugs and may expose patients to health risks. Novo Nordisk cannot validate the safety or effectiveness of products claiming to contain semaglutide that are not one of our own branded products. We are actively working to ensure broad public awareness regarding the difference between our FDA-approved products and other medicines being labeled as “semaglutide” and sold by such entities. Further, the practice of selling compounded semaglutide medicines under Novo Nordisk trade names has the potential to create consumer confusion and deception, and we will not tolerate the unauthorized and inappropriate usage of our brand trademarks by third parties.

Telehealth and Semaglutide

We also see the growing trend of weight-management telehealth providers, and have heard media reports that some telehealth providers are not providing sufficient clinical evaluations prior to prescribing semaglutide medicines, including Wegovy® and Ozempic®. Novo Nordisk is not directly supplying semaglutide to any telehealth providers. Novo Nordisk medicines should only be prescribed after a close consultation between a healthcare provider and a patient -- considering the medication’s benefits and risks for that individual patient – and should only be taken under the supervision of a healthcare provider.

Efforts to Support Proper Use of Semaglutide

We find these collective dynamics concerning. While we cannot control others’ actions, we can and are continuing to take steps to ensure accurate and scientifically sound information is available to the public and to healthcare professionals in support of responsible use of our medicines.

This includes:

- As is our standard practice, all promotional and educational materials for our medicines focus on FDA-approved indications only, in compliance with all applicable regulations.
- We provide extensive training about the FDA-approved indications, risks and benefits of our medicines to our field representatives who interact with healthcare professionals.
- In response to the unique situation in the marketplace today, we are requesting that HCPs only prescribe Wegovy®, Ozempic® and Rybelsus® to the patients for whom they’re respectively indicated.
- We educate the public about our products including the FDA-approved indications, benefits and risks through our direct-to-consumer communications, websites and call centers.
- We work to ensure reporters and other external stakeholders have accurate information about our medicines and take reasonable measures to correct misinformation that we see in the press and other channels.
- Novo Nordisk will take legal action when necessary to address unauthorized and inappropriate usage of our brand names and trademarks by third parties.

We ask patients who may be interested in our products to consult with your healthcare provider to evaluate your individual needs, and through shared decision-making, ensure you are considering the appropriate medicine based upon its FDA-approved indication and its safety and efficacy profile. You can find information about our products on Wegovy.com, Ozempic.com and Rybelsus.com.

While we respect every healthcare provider's expertise and their right to prescribe medications based on their clinical judgment, we ask that healthcare professionals prescribe semaglutide medicines consistent with their FDA-approved indications. We'd like to reinforce that each medication has its own indications and its own safety and efficacy profile which is detailed in its respective product label.

We also encourage reporters who are covering our medicines to [reach out to Novo Nordisk](#) for the most current and accurate information and balanced reporting on our medicines. We want to ensure journalists have the necessary facts to inform their coverage.

Our goal is to serve people living with chronic diseases. In this unprecedented situation, we believe we have a responsibility to directly address many of these marketplace and societal dynamics to raise awareness, reinforce responsible use of our medicines and ultimately to support patient safety with a focus on delivering positive clinical outcomes. We will continue to do that with a focus on patient health and wellbeing and the safe and effective treatment of serious chronic diseases.

Indication and Important Safety Information for Wegovy®

What is Wegovy®?

WEGOVY® (semaglutide) injection 2.4 mg is an injectable prescription medicine that may help adults and children aged ≥12 years with obesity (BMI ≥30 for adults, BMI ≥ 95th percentile for age and sex for children), or some adults with excess weight (BMI ≥27) (overweight) who also have weight-related medical problems to help them lose weight and keep it off. Wegovy® should be used with a reduced calorie meal plan and increased physical activity

- Wegovy® contains semaglutide and should not be used with other semaglutide-containing products or other GLP-1 receptor agonist medicine
- It is not known if Wegovy® is safe and effective when taken with other prescription, over-the-counter, or herbal weight loss products
- It is not known if Wegovy® can be used safely in people with a history of pancreatitis
- It is not known if Wegovy® is safe and effective for use in children under 12 years of age

Important Safety Information

What is the most important information I should know about Wegovy®?

Wegovy® may cause serious side effects, including:

- **Possible thyroid tumors, including cancer.** Tell your healthcare provider if you get a lump or swelling in your neck, hoarseness, trouble swallowing, or shortness of breath. These may be symptoms of thyroid cancer. In studies with rodents, Wegovy® and medicines that work like Wegovy® caused thyroid tumors, including thyroid cancer. It is not known if Wegovy® will cause thyroid tumors or a type of thyroid cancer called medullary thyroid carcinoma (MTC) in people

Do not use Wegovy® if you or any of your family have ever had a type of thyroid cancer called medullary thyroid carcinoma (MTC) or if you have an endocrine system condition called Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia syndrome type 2 (MEN 2)

Do not use Wegovy® if:

- you or any of your family have ever had a type of thyroid cancer called medullary thyroid carcinoma (MTC) or if you have an endocrine system condition called Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia syndrome type 2 (MEN 2)
- you have had a serious allergic reaction to semaglutide or any of the ingredients in Wegovy®

Before using Wegovy®, tell your healthcare provider if you have any other medical conditions, including if you:

- have or have had problems with your pancreas or kidneys
- have type 2 diabetes and a history of diabetic retinopathy
- have or have had depression, suicidal thoughts, or mental health issues
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. Wegovy® may harm your unborn baby. You should stop using Wegovy® 2 months before you plan to become pregnant
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if Wegovy® passes into your breast milk

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. Wegovy® may affect the way some medicines work and some medicines may affect the way Wegovy® works. Tell your healthcare provider if you are taking other medicines to treat diabetes, including sulfonylureas or insulin. Wegovy® slows stomach emptying and can affect medicines that need to pass through the stomach quickly.

What are the possible side effects of Wegovy®?

Wegovy® may cause serious side effects, including:

- **inflammation of your pancreas (pancreatitis).** Stop using Wegovy® and call your healthcare provider right away if you have severe pain in your stomach area (abdomen) that will not go away, with or without vomiting. You may feel the pain from your abdomen to your back
- **gallbladder problems.** Wegovy® may cause gallbladder problems, including gallstones. Some gallstones may need surgery. Call your healthcare provider if you have symptoms, such as pain in your upper stomach (abdomen), fever, yellowing of the skin or eyes (jaundice), or clay colored stools
- **increased risk of low blood sugar (hypoglycemia) in patients with type 2 diabetes, especially those who also take medicines for type 2 diabetes such as sulfonylureas or insulin.** This can be both a serious and common side effect. Talk to your healthcare provider about how to recognize and treat low blood sugar and check your blood sugar before you start and while you take Wegovy®. **Signs and symptoms of low blood sugar may include dizziness or light-headedness**, blurred vision, anxiety, irritability or mood changes, sweating, slurred speech, hunger, confusion or drowsiness, shakiness, weakness, headache, fast heartbeat, or feeling jittery
- **kidney problems (kidney failure).** In people who have kidney problems, diarrhea, nausea, and vomiting may cause a loss of fluids (dehydration), which may cause kidney problems to get worse. It is important for you to drink fluids to help reduce your chance of dehydration

- **serious allergic reactions.** Stop using Wegovy® and get medical help right away, if you have any symptoms of a serious allergic reaction, including swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat; problems breathing or swallowing; severe rash or itching; fainting or feeling dizzy; or very rapid heartbeat
- **change in vision in people with type 2 diabetes.** Tell your healthcare provider if you have changes in vision during treatment with Wegovy®
- **increased heart rate.** Wegovy® can increase your heart rate while you are at rest. Tell your healthcare provider if you feel your heart racing or pounding in your chest and it lasts for several minutes
- **depression or thoughts of suicide.** You should pay attention to any mental changes, especially sudden changes in your mood, behaviors, thoughts, or feelings. Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any mental changes that are new, worse, or worry you

The most common side effects of Wegovy® may include: nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, constipation, stomach (abdomen) pain, headache, tiredness (fatigue), upset stomach, dizziness, feeling bloated, belching, gas, stomach flu, heartburn, and runny nose or sore throat.

Please click here for [Prescribing Information](#) and [Medication Guide](#) for Wegovy®.

Wegovy® is a prescription medication.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088

Indication and Important Safety Information for Ozempic®

What is Ozempic®?

Ozempic® (semaglutide) injection 0.5 mg, 1 mg, or 2 mg is an injectable prescription medicine used:

- along with diet and exercise to improve blood sugar (glucose) in adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus.
- to reduce the risk of major cardiovascular events such as heart attack, stroke, or death in adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus with known heart disease.

It is not known if Ozempic® can be used in people who have had pancreatitis.

Ozempic® is not for use in people with type 1 diabetes.

It is not known if Ozempic® is safe and effective for use in children under 18 years of age.

Important Safety Information

Do not share your Ozempic® pen with other people, even if the needle has been changed. You may give other people a serious infection, or get a serious infection from them.

What is the most important information I should know about Ozempic®?

Ozempic® may cause serious side effects, including:

- **Possible thyroid tumors, including cancer.** Tell your health care provider if you get a lump or swelling in your neck, hoarseness, trouble swallowing, or shortness of breath. These may be symptoms of thyroid cancer. In studies with rodents, Ozempic® and medicines that work like Ozempic® caused thyroid tumors, including thyroid cancer. It is not known if Ozempic® will cause thyroid tumors or a type of thyroid cancer called medullary thyroid carcinoma (MTC) in people.

- Do not use Ozempic® if you or any of your family have ever had MTC, or if you have an endocrine system condition called Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia syndrome type 2 (MEN 2).

Do not use Ozempic® if:

- you or any of your family have ever had MTC or if you have MEN 2.
- you are allergic to semaglutide or any of the ingredients in Ozempic®. See symptoms of serious allergic reaction in “What are the possible side effects of Ozempic®?”.

Before using Ozempic®, tell your health care provider if you have any other medical conditions, including if you:

- have or have had problems with your pancreas or kidneys.
- have a history of diabetic retinopathy.
- are pregnant or breastfeeding or plan to become pregnant or breastfeed. It is not known if Ozempic® will harm your unborn baby or passes into your breast milk. You should stop using Ozempic® 2 months before you plan to become pregnant.

Tell your health care provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, herbal supplements, and other medicines to treat diabetes, including insulin or sulfonylureas.

What are the possible side effects of Ozempic®?

Ozempic® may cause serious side effects, including:

- **inflammation of your pancreas (pancreatitis).** Stop using Ozempic® and call your health care provider right away if you have severe pain in your stomach area (abdomen) that will not go away, with or without vomiting. You may feel the pain from your abdomen to your back.
- **changes in vision.** Tell your health care provider if you have changes in vision during treatment with Ozempic®.
- **low blood sugar (hypoglycemia).** Your risk for getting low blood sugar may be higher if you use Ozempic® with another medicine that can cause low blood sugar, such as a sulfonylurea or insulin. **Signs and symptoms of low blood sugar may include:** dizziness or lightheadedness, blurred vision, anxiety, irritability or mood changes, sweating, slurred speech, hunger, confusion or drowsiness, shakiness, weakness, headache, fast heartbeat, and feeling jittery.
- **kidney problems (kidney failure).** In people who have kidney problems, diarrhea, nausea, and vomiting may cause a loss of fluids (dehydration), which may cause kidney problems to get worse. It is important for you to drink fluids to help reduce your chance of dehydration.
- **serious allergic reactions.** Stop using Ozempic® and get medical help right away if you have any symptoms of a serious allergic reaction, including swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat; problems breathing or swallowing; severe rash or itching; fainting or feeling dizzy; or very rapid heartbeat.
- **gallbladder problems.** Gallbladder problems have happened in some people who take Ozempic®. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get symptoms which may include: pain in your upper stomach (abdomen), fever, yellowing of the skin or eyes (jaundice), or clay-colored stools.

The most common side effects of Ozempic® may include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, stomach (abdominal) pain, and constipation.

Please click here for [Prescribing Information](#) and [Medication Guide](#).

Ozempic® is a prescription medication.

Novo Nordisk provides patient assistance for those who qualify. Please call 1-866-310-7549 to learn more about Novo Nordisk assistance programs.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/med-watch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Indication and Important Safety Information for RYBELSUS®

What is RYBELSUS®?

RYBELSUS® (semaglutide) tablets 7 mg or 14 mg is a prescription medicine used along with diet and exercise to improve blood sugar (glucose) in adults with type 2 diabetes.

- It is not known if RYBELSUS® can be used in people who have had pancreatitis
- RYBELSUS® is not for use in people with type 1 diabetes
- It is not known if RYBELSUS® is safe and effective for use in children under 18 years of age

Important Safety Information

What is the most important information I should know about RYBELSUS®?

RYBELSUS® may cause serious side effects, including:

- **Possible thyroid tumors, including cancer.** Tell your healthcare provider if you get a lump or swelling in your neck, hoarseness, trouble swallowing, or shortness of breath. These may be symptoms of thyroid cancer. In studies with rodents, RYBELSUS® and medicines that work like RYBELSUS® caused thyroid tumors, including thyroid cancer. It is not known if RYBELSUS® will cause thyroid tumors or a type of thyroid cancer called medullary thyroid carcinoma (MTC) in people

Do not use RYBELSUS® if:

- you or any of your family have ever had MTC, or if you have an endocrine system condition called Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia syndrome type 2 (MEN 2)
- you have had a serious allergic reaction to semaglutide or any of the ingredients in RYBELSUS®. See symptoms of serious allergic reaction in **“What are the possible side effects of RYBELSUS®?”**

Before using RYBELSUS®, tell your healthcare provider if you have any other medical conditions, including if you:

- have or have had problems with your pancreas or kidneys
- have a history of vision problems related to your diabetes
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if RYBELSUS® will harm your unborn baby. You should stop using RYBELSUS® 2 months before you plan to become pregnant. Talk to your healthcare provider about the best way to control your blood sugar if you plan to become pregnant or while you are pregnant
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. Breastfeeding is not recommended during treatment with RYBELSUS®

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. RYBELSUS® may affect the way some medicines work and some medicines may affect the way RYBELSUS® works.

What are the possible side effects of RYBELSUS®?

RYBELSUS® may cause serious side effects, including:

- **inflammation of your pancreas (pancreatitis).** Stop using RYBELSUS® and call your healthcare provider right away if you have severe pain in your stomach area (abdomen) that will not go away, with or without vomiting. You may feel the pain from your abdomen to your back
- **changes in vision.** Tell your healthcare provider if you have changes in vision during treatment with RYBELSUS®
- **low blood sugar (hypoglycemia).** Your risk for getting low blood sugar may be higher if you use RYBELSUS® with another medicine that can cause low blood sugar, such as a sulfonylurea or insulin. **Signs and symptoms of low blood sugar may include:** dizziness or lightheadedness, blurred vision, anxiety, irritability or mood changes, sweating, slurred speech, hunger, confusion or drowsiness, shakiness, weakness, headache, fast heartbeat, and feeling jittery
- **kidney problems (kidney failure).** In people who have kidney problems, diarrhea, nausea, and vomiting may cause a loss of fluids (dehydration), which may cause kidney problems to get worse. It is important for you to drink fluids to help reduce your chance of dehydration
- **serious allergic reactions.** Stop using RYBELSUS® and get medical help right away, if you have any symptoms of a serious allergic reaction, including swelling of your face, lips, tongue, or throat; problems breathing or swallowing; severe rash or itching; fainting or feeling dizzy; or very rapid heartbeat
- **gallbladder problems.** Gallbladder problems have happened in some people who take RYBELSUS®. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get symptoms of gallbladder problems, which may include: pain in your upper stomach (abdomen), yellowing of skin or eyes (jaundice), fever, and clay-colored stools

The most common side effects of RYBELSUS® may include nausea, stomach (abdominal) pain, diarrhea, decreased appetite, vomiting, and constipation. Nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea are most common when you first start RYBELSUS®.

Please see [Prescribing Information](#) and [Medication Guide](#) for RYBELSUS®.

RYBELSUS® is a prescription medication.

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