

PAYER POLICY: Chronic Weight Management (Wegovy/Semaglutide)

OBESITY / CHRONIC WEIGHT MANAGEMENT ONLY

Effective Date: 2025-01-01 Policy ID: RX-WEG-2025

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Eligibility

Adults ≥ 18 years

Obesity BMI ≥ 30 kg/m² with adult obesity diagnosis

- BMI ≥ 30.0

Required diagnosis strings:

- Obesity
- obese
- clinical obesity
- Obese patient
- patient is obese
- BMI ≥ 30
- BMI > 30
- BMI 30–39.9
- Simple obesity
- unspecified obesity
- Obesity due to excess calories (E66.0)
- Obesity, unspecified (E66.9)
- Overweight and obesity (E66.x)
- Class 1 obesity
- class I obesity
- mild obesity
- Class 2 obesity
- class II obesity
- moderate obesity
- Class 3 obesity
- class III obesity
- Severe obesity
- severe obesity due to excess calories
- Extreme obesity
- morbid obesity
- morbid obesity due to excess calories
- Morbid (severe) obesity with alveolar hypoventilation
- Morbid (severe) obesity due to excess calories (E66.01)
- Other obesity due to excess calories (E66.09)

- Extreme obesity (BMI ≥ 40) (Z68.41–Z68.45)
- Obesity associated with type 2 diabetes
- Obesity-related hypertension
- obesity-related dyslipidemia
- Obesity hypoventilation syndrome

Overweight BMI ≥ 27 kg/m² with weight-related comorbidity

- BMI ≥ 27.0 and < 29.99

Required diagnosis strings:

- Overweight
- Overweight, adult
- Overweight and obesity (E66.x)
- BMI 27–29.9
- Elevated BMI
- BMI above normal
- BMI > 27
- Overweight (E66.3)
- Overweight and obesity (E66.x)
- BMI codes Z68.27–Z68.29 when present along with an overweight/obesity dx

At least one weight-related comorbidity:

- HYPERTENSION / HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE
- TYPE 2 DIABETES MELLITUS
- DYSLIPIDEMIA / HYPERLIPIDEMIA
- OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA (OSA)
- CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE (ASCVD)

Diagnosis Strings

Adult Obesity

- Obesity
- obese
- clinical obesity
- Obese patient
- patient is obese
- BMI ≥ 30
- BMI > 30
- BMI 30–39.9
- Simple obesity
- unspecified obesity
- Obesity due to excess calories (E66.0)
- Obesity, unspecified (E66.9)
- Overweight and obesity (E66.x)
- Class 1 obesity
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- Severe obesity
- severe obesity due to excess calories
- Extreme obesity
- morbid obesity
- morbid obesity due to excess calories
- Morbid (severe) obesity with alveolar hypoventilation
- Morbid (severe) obesity due to excess calories (E66.01)
- Other obesity due to excess calories (E66.09)
- Extreme obesity (BMI ≥ 40) (Z68.41–Z68.45)
- Obesity associated with type 2 diabetes
- Obesity-related hypertension
- obesity-related dyslipidemia
- Obesity hypoventilation syndrome

Adult Excess Weight / Overweight

- Overweight
- Overweight, adult
- Overweight and obesity (E66.x)
- BMI 27–29.9
- Elevated BMI
- BMI above normal
- BMI > 27
- Overweight (E66.3)
- Overweight and obesity (E66.x)
- BMI codes Z68.27–Z68.29 when present along with an overweight/obesity dx

Weight-Related Comorbidities

CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE (ASCVD)

- Coronary artery disease
- CAD
- coronary heart disease
- Ischemic heart disease
- chronic ischemic heart disease
- Stable angina
- unstable angina
- variant angina
- History of MI
- prior MI
- old myocardial infarction
- Myocardial infarction
- STEMI
- NSTEMI
- acute coronary syndrome

- Stroke
- CVA
- cerebrovascular accident
- Ischemic stroke
- hemorrhagic stroke
- Transient ischemic attack
- TIA
- Peripheral arterial disease
- PAD
- Peripheral vascular disease
- PVD
- Claudication
- Heart failure
- HF
- CHF
- congestive heart failure
- Systolic heart failure
- HFrEF
- Diastolic heart failure
- HFpEF
- Chronic heart failure
- acute on chronic heart failure
- Heart attack
- MI

DYSLIPIDEMIA / HYPERLIPIDEMIA

- Dyslipidemia
- dyslipidaemia
- Hyperlipidemia
- hyperlipidaemia
- HLD
- Hypercholesterolemia
- high cholesterol
- Hypertriglyceridemia
- high triglycerides
- Mixed hyperlipidemia
- Familial hypercholesterolemia
- familial combined hyperlipidemia
- Lipid disorder
- elevated LDL
- elevated non-HDL cholesterol
- Pure hypercholesterolemia (E78.0)
- Mixed hyperlipidemia (E78.2)
- Other hyperlipidemia (E78.4)
- Hyperlipidemia, unspecified (E78.5)

HYPERTENSION / HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

- Hypertension
- HTN
- High blood pressure
- elevated blood pressure
- Essential hypertension
- benign essential hypertension
- Primary hypertension
- Secondary hypertension
- Hypertensive heart disease
- hypertensive kidney disease
- hypertensive heart and renal disease
- Hypertension (I10)
- Hypertensive heart disease (I11.x)
- Hypertensive kidney disease (I12.x)
- Hypertensive heart and chronic kidney disease (I13.x)
- Elevated BP

OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA (OSA)

- Obstructive sleep apnea
- OSA
- Sleep apnea
- Obstructive sleep apnea syndrome
- Sleep apnea on CPAP
- sleep apnea on BiPAP
- Severe OSA
- moderate OSA
- mild OSA
- Obstructive sleep apnea (G47.33)

TYPE 2 DIABETES MELLITUS

- Type 2 diabetes mellitus
- type II diabetes mellitus
- Type 2 DM
- Type II DM
- T2DM
- DM2
- DMII
- Adult-onset diabetes mellitus
- Non–insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus
- Type 2 diabetes with nephropathy
- Type 2 diabetes with neuropathy
- Type 2 diabetes with retinopathy
- Type 2 diabetes with hyperglycemia
- Type 2 diabetes mellitus without complications (E11.9)
- Type 2 diabetes mellitus with [complication] (E11.x)
- E11
- Type 2 Diabetes

- Type II Diabetes

Safety Exclusions & Contraindications

Personal or family history of Medullary Thyroid Carcinoma

- Personal or family history of Medullary Thyroid Carcinoma
- Medullary Thyroid Carcinoma (MTC)
- MTC
- Medullary carcinoma of thyroid
- medullary thyroid cancer

Personal or family history of Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia syndrome type 2

- Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia syndrome type 2
- MEN 2
- MEN2
- MEN-2
- MEN type 2
- MEN type II

Pregnant or currently nursing

- Pregnant
- currently pregnant
- pregnancy
- Breastfeeding
- breast-feeding
- nursing mother
- nursing
- Lactating
- lactation
- Planned pregnancy while on Wegovy (needs discontinuation ≥ 2 months prior)

Prior serious hypersensitivity to semaglutide or Wegovy components

- Serious hypersensitivity reaction to semaglutide
- Anaphylaxis to Wegovy/semaglutide
- Angioedema due to semaglutide
- Severe allergic reaction to Wegovy/semaglutide

No Concurrent GLP-1 or GLP-1/GIP Use

- The patient cannot be on any other medication that is a GLP-1 receptor agonist or GLP-1/GIP agonist, including combination products.

Pancreatitis

- History of pancreatitis
- prior acute pancreatitis
- Chronic pancreatitis
- Pancreatitis while on GLP-1

Suicidality (label-based precaution)

- History of suicide attempt(s)

- Active suicidal ideation or self-harm behavior documented
- Explicit charted instruction to avoid GLP-1 / weight-loss meds due to suicidality
- self-harm behavior

Severe GI motility disorder (label-based precaution)

- Severe gastroparesis
- major gi motility disorder
- major gi motility disorder

Drug Conflicts (No concurrent GLP-1 / GLP-1-GIP use)

- Dulaglutide
- Trulicity
- Exenatide
- Byetta
- Bydureon
- Bydureon BCise
- Liraglutide
- Victoza
- Saxenda
- Xultophy
- Lixisenatide
- Adlyxin
- Soliqua
- Ozempic
- Rybelsus
- semaglutide
- Tirzepatide
- Mounjaro
- Zepbound
- Albiglutide
- Tanzeum

Documentation Requirements

- Document current or baseline BMI; height/weight calculations are acceptable.
- Include adult obesity diagnosis text when BMI is ≥ 30 kg/m².
- For BMI 27–29.9, include adult excess-weight diagnosis text plus at least one weight-related comorbidity from the accepted list.

Ambiguities (policy-directed handling)

sleep apnea → MANUAL_REVIEW (Must specify obstructive or OSA to qualify.)

thyroid cancer → MANUAL_REVIEW (Only medullary thyroid carcinoma is hard exclusion.)

papillary thyroid carcinoma → MANUAL_REVIEW

follicular thyroid carcinoma → MANUAL_REVIEW

thyroid carcinoma → MANUAL_REVIEW

malignant tumor of thyroid → MANUAL_REVIEW

type 1 diabetes → CONSERVATIVE_DENY (Not a qualifying weight-related comorbidity for Wegovy BMI criteria.)

prediabetes → MANUAL_REVIEW

pre-diabetes → MANUAL_REVIEW

borderline diabetes → MANUAL_REVIEW

impaired fasting glucose → MANUAL_REVIEW

borderline hypertension → MANUAL_REVIEW

Notes

- Height/weight that clearly calculate to the thresholds below count the same as explicit BMI.
- Diagnosis strings include BOTH free-text labels and structured problem-list / ICD-based text.
- Isolated Type 1 diabetes mellitus (T1DM/IDDM) is not counted as the weight-related comorbidity for Wegovy BMI criteria.