



Semaglutide Consent

First Name

Last Name

Date of Birth

What is Semaglutide?

Semaglutide is an injectable glucagon-like peptide-1 ([GLP-1 agonist](#)) that's administered once weekly. It was originally approved in [2017](#) — at a lower dose under the brand name [Ozempic](#) — to help control blood sugar in [Type 2 diabetes](#). People taking Ozempic for blood sugar control also tend to [lose weight](#) as an additional benefit. Because of this, Novo Nordisk studied the medication in people without Type 2 diabetes, but at a higher dose. Now, Semaglutide (under the brand name Wegovy) is [FDA approved](#).

How does Semaglutide work for weight loss?

- GLP-1 is an [incretin hormone](#) that [plays a role](#) in your appetite and digestion. [Incretins](#) — hormones released by your digestive tract — are sent out by your body after you've eaten a meal. They help lower your blood sugar by triggering insulin release and blocking sugar production. They also slow down how quickly food leaves your stomach (called gastric emptying).
- The result of these actions causes you to feel full — lowering your appetite and causing you to lose weight. Medications like GLP-1 agonists are referred to as incretin mimetics since they "mimic" these effects.

How is Semaglutide dosed?

- Semaglutide is typically injected just under the skin (subcutaneously) in your abdomen, upper arm, or thigh. Avoid injecting the medication into the same spot every time — change your injection site with each dose. But injecting in the same body area (e.g., thigh) is OK as long as you're rotating sites within the area each time.
- Since Semaglutide slows down how quickly food leaves your stomach, you may experience [side effects](#) like nausea and vomiting. Once you get started on the medication, your healthcare provider will slowly increase your dosage every 4 weeks. This can help make these effects more manageable.
- The target dose for both adolescents and adults is 2.4 mg once weekly. Before reaching the target dose, a typical [dosing schedule](#)

may look like:

Month 1: 0.25 mg once weekly for the first month

Month 2: 0.5 mg once weekly for the second month

Month 3: 1 mg once weekly for the third month

Month 4: 1.7 mg once weekly for the fourth month

Target maintenance dose: 2.4 mg once weekly

Some people may not be able to reach or tolerate the target dose due to side effects. If this is the case, you may have to decrease or stop the medication if you're unable to reach or stay on the target dose.

Semaglutide side effects

Gastrointestinal (GI) side effects tend to happen most frequently when taking this medication.

The most common are:

- nausea
- diarrhea
- vomiting

You may experience these effects more strongly when we increase your dose.

Additional common side effects can include:

- Constipation
- Stomach pain
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Indigestion
- Dizziness
- Bloating
- Burping

Serious side effects

In some cases, Semaglutide may cause more serious side effects. The medication has a [boxed warning](#) — **the FDA's most serious warning — for a potential risk for thyroid C-cell tumors. This risk has been seen in animal studies, but it hasn't been confirmed in people. Because of this, you shouldn't take Semaglutide if you have a personal or family history of certain thyroid tumors.**

Other serious side effects can include:

- [Pancreatitis](#) (inflamed pancreas)
- Cholelithiasis (gallbladder disease)
- Kidney damage
- Low blood sugar ([hypoglycemia](#))
- [Allergic reactions](#) (including swelling of the face, tongue, or throat; difficulty breathing)
- Fast heart rate

Suicidal thoughts and behaviors are another risk listed on the medication's labeling because it's been reported with other weight loss medications. Let your healthcare provider know right away if you're experiencing any changes in mood or behavior, or if you're having suicidal thoughts.

Can Semaglutide interact with other medications?

Since Semaglutide can lower your blood sugar, it can interact with other blood sugar-lowering medications. Examples include [insulin](#) and medications that cause insulin to be released, like [sulfonylureas](#).

- Glipizide (Glucotrol)
- Metformin
- Glyburide
- Tolbutamide

Combining these medications can result in dangerously low blood sugar levels.

Another potential interaction is with oral medications. Semaglutide slows down how quickly food leaves your stomach. This may affect how certain oral medications are absorbed by your body when they're taken together.

Signature

Sign above