

Supporting Patients During

GLP-1 Receptor Agonist Drug Formulary Changes

Due to insurance formulary changes of weight management medications, many patients on GLP-1 Receptor Agonists (RAs) or GLP-1/GIP RAs will need to be changed to alternative therapies. Here are some tips for supporting patients during this formulary change.

Switch to a different injectable GLP-1 RA or GLP-1/GIP RA

- The suggested conversions in the tables below are off-label and based on relevant literature where available and/or clinical experience. **This guide does not replace clinical judgment and all conversions should be individualized on a case-by-case basis.**
 - Consider tolerability and relevant past medical history including previous individual trials of other GLP-1s or dual GLP-1/GIP RA. Consider switch to a lower dose than suggested below.
- There are differences in administration, storage, expiration dates, and supplies needed for all the listed products below. The package insert should be consulted for detailed prescribing information. **Patient education will need to be provided prior to making changes.**
 - When switching from a weekly to a daily medication, take the first dose of the daily medication seven days after the last dose of the weekly medication.
 - When switching from a daily to a weekly medication, take the first dose of the weekly medication one day after the last dose of the daily medication.
 - If prescribing liraglutide, a separate prescription for pen needles will be necessary.

Table 1: Switch from Tirzepatide to an alternative agent

Agent	Suggested Dose Conversion (mg)					
tirzepatide (Zepbound)	2.5	5	7.5	10	12.5	15
semaglutide (Wegovy)	0.25	0.5	1	1	1.7	1.7
liraglutide (Saxenda)	1.2	1.2	1.8	1.8	2.4	2.4

Table 2: Switch from Semaglutide to an alternative agent

Agent	Suggested Dose Conversion (mg)				
semaglutide (Wegovy)	0.25	0.5	1	1.7	2.4
tirzepatide (Zepbound)	2.5	2.5	5	5	5
liraglutide (Saxenda)	1.2	1.2	1.8	2.4	2.4

Table 3: Switch from Liraglutide to an alternative agent

Agent	Suggested Dose Conversion (mg)				
liraglutide (Saxenda)	0.6	1.2	1.8	2.4	3
semaglutide (Wegovy)	0.25	0.25	0.5	0.5	0.5
tirzepatide (Zepbound)	2.5	2.5	2.5	5	5

References:

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5. Mando N, Thomson E, Fowler M, et al. (December 19, 2024) Acute Pancreatitis Caused by Tirzepatide. *Cureus* 16(12): e76007.
6. Whitley HP, Trujillo JM, Neumiller JJ. Special Report: Potential Strategies for Addressing GLP-1 and Dual GLP-1/GIP Receptor Agonist Shortages. *Clin Diabetes*. 2023;41(3):467-473.