

GLP-1 for Weight Loss FAQs

If me or someone on my plan is currently taking a GLP-1 medication due to diabetes, are we impacted by the change to remove coverage for these drugs effective January 1, 2025?

You are not affected by this change if you are currently taking this medication to treat diabetes (ex. Ozempic).

If me or someone on my plan has a pre-authorization for a GLP-1 drug for weight loss that expires in 2025, will the medication be covered through my pre-authorization termination date?

Coverage for GLP-1s for weight loss including Saxenda, Wegovy, and Zepbound will not be covered effective January 1, 2025, regardless of pre-authorization status. The prior authorization will expire effective December 31, 2024. If members continue to use these drugs after these dates, they will be responsible for the full cost of the medications.

Can I obtain a pre-authorization to have a GLP-1 for weight loss covered on or after January 1, 2025?

No, coverage for GLP-1s for weight loss including Saxenda, Wegovy, and Zepbound will not be covered effective January 1, 2025, regardless of pre-authorization status.

Where can I go to see a complete list of covered drugs and coverage requirements?

For a complete list of drugs and coverage requirements, you can go [here](#).

Is there an appeal process for the GLP-1 coverage?

Members have the right to appeal any adverse benefit determination. However, because this is a benefit exclusion, denials are not subject to medical necessity review.

Is there a grandfathering provision?

No, coverage for GLP-1s for weight loss including Saxenda, Wegovy, and Zepbound will not be covered effective January 1, 2025.

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Are there non GLP-1 alternatives that are covered for weight loss?

Current non GLP-1 alternatives include phentermine, and with prior authorization Qsymia, generic Evekeo, Xenical, and Contrave. Visit this [link](#) to review the prior authorization and step therapy criteria.

Why is the company no longer covering GLP-1s for weight loss?

The coverage decision was made after careful consideration from leaders across the company. This decision aligns to the decision we have made for our group customers. In June, the company announced that beginning Jan. 1, 2025, or on the group's 2025 health coverage renewal date, BCBSM and BCN will no longer cover prescriptions for Saxenda, Wegovy and Zepbound for weight loss for members in large fully insured groups. Blue Cross is committed to providing our members, including our employees with access to high-quality, affordable health care. We also have a responsibility, as stewards of our members' and customers' premiums, to ensure that the drugs we pay for benefit our members without adding excessive costs that impact all member and customer groups health care costs through increased premiums.