Weight-loss medication exclusion effective 1/1/2027

Effective 1/1/2027, Dentsu will no longer cover oral or injectable medications prescribed solely for weight loss or appetite suppression. This exclusion applies to:

- **Injectable GLP-1 medications:** including those discussed below
- **Oral formulations:** such as Foundayo and the Wegovy pill
- **Appetite suppressants:** such as phentermine, Lomira, and Contrave

INFORMATION ABOUT GLP-1 MEDICATION COVERAGE FOR 2027

GLP-1 medications may be used to treat certain medical conditions

You may have heard about GLP-1 medications for weight loss. However, some GLP-1 medications are also FDA-approved to treat certain medical conditions.

Depending on the medication and your individual health needs, GLP-1 medications may be prescribed for:

Type 2 diabetes
Certain GLP-1 medications, including Mounjaro, Ozempic and Victoza, are FDA-approved to help manage blood sugar in people with type 2 diabetes.

Cardiovascular disease
Wegovy is FDA-approved for certain adults with cardiovascular disease and overweight or obesity to help reduce the risk of serious cardiovascular events, such as heart attack, stroke or cardiovascular death.

Obstructive sleep apnea (OSA)
Zepbound is FDA-approved for certain adults with obesity and moderate-to-severe obstructive sleep apnea, a condition that causes breathing to repeatedly stop and start during sleep

MASH, a type of liver disease
Wegovy is FDA-approved for certain adults with metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis, commonly called MASH. MASH is a condition in which fat buildup in the liver causes inflammation and liver damage.

What does this mean for me?

If your health plan does not cover GLP-1 medications solely for weight loss, you **may still qualify for coverage if the medication is being prescribed for another FDA-approved medical condition covered by your plan**.

If you believe you have one of these conditions, talk with your doctor. Your doctor can determine whether a GLP-1 medication is medically appropriate for you and can submit a **prior authorization request** if required by your health plan.

Having one of these conditions does not automatically guarantee coverage. Coverage is based on your health plan benefits and applicable clinical and prior authorization requirements. Optum Rx's internal guidance notes that its clinical criteria are designed to ensure use is clinically appropriate and aligned with FDA labeling

Already taking a GLP-1 medication?

If you currently take a GLP-1 medication and your coverage for weight-loss medications is changing, talk with your doctor before the change takes effect. If your medication is being used for another covered medical condition, your doctor may need to submit a new prior authorization request. This follows the approach previously used in the approved member communication for groups discontinuing GLP-1 weight-loss coverage.

The FDA continues to evaluate GLP-1 medications for additional uses, so approved indications may change over time.

The above benefit provisions are administered by UHC based on the contract agreement between dentsu and UHC. Full Benefit SPD's will be finalized before the end of the year. If you have any additional questions, please reach out to UHC at 800-765-6717.