

BACKGROUND ON GLP-1 MEDICATION

GLP-1 Medication

Glucagon-like peptide (GLP-1) receptor agonists (here on referred to as **GLP-1s**) are used to treat chronic obesity and other chronic conditions. First discovered in 1984 and approved by the FDA in 2005.

How does it work?

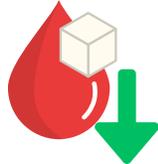
GLP-1s slows down how quickly food moves through the body and increases the sensation of fullness for longer.



Activates these effects:



Weight loss



Lower blood sugar levels



Reduce risk in heart problems

Barriers to Accessing GLP-1s



Stigma: Makes people less likely to engage with the health care system; negative stereotypes of users may impact treatment.



Racism and discrimination: Black and Hispanic adults with obesity were more likely to have financial barriers to accessing GLP-1s and were less likely to receive prescriptions compared to White adults. People of color are less likely to be diagnosed and offered treatment.

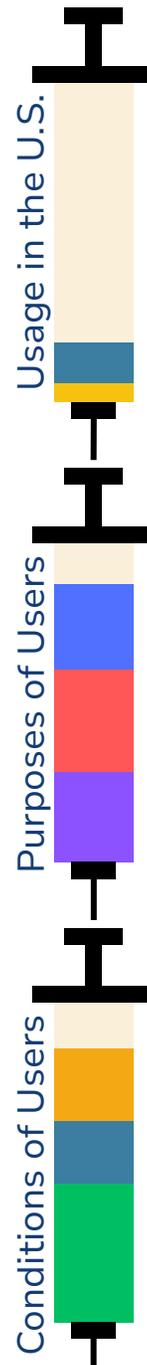


Expense: GLP-1s are difficult to afford, even with insurance.

FDA Approved GLP-1 Drugs

- Liraglutide (Saxenda)
- Semaglutide (Wegovy/Ozempic)
- Tirzepatide (Mounjaro)

GLP-1 Medication Statistics in the U.S.



12% Of adults have used a GLP-1 medication

6% of adults are currently taking GLP-1 medication

39% use to treat chronic conditions

38% use for weight loss

23% use for both

22% classified as overweight or obese

43% have diabetes

26% have heart disease