

Ozempic: Weighing In On the Pros and Cons

Injecting Control: GLP1 Insights for Smarter Claims Management

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My Background



COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
"Before he Shover"



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA




RICE UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Spotlight

Career dedicated to solving complex problems in pharmacy, managed care, workers' compensation and group health.

Primary areas include PBM services, independent pharmacy medical management, and strategic program consulting.

Key areas of expertise include drug spend containment, utilization management, and clinical program strategy.



HEALTH
LIFEPOINT



PCCA



Waggoner



PersonalMed



CVS pharmacy



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Summary

Education

- PharmD
- Pharmacoeconomist
- Licensed Pharmacist

Clinical Background/Projects

- Policy
- Patient Care
- Payer

Workers' Compensation

- Provider/Pharmacy
- PBM Auditor/Consultant
- Cost Containment

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Let's Start With Headlines

Ozempic Revolution

Nature, 2023 Nov; 15(2): 4804.
Published online 2023 Nov 17; doi: 10.1038/s41586-023-04804-0

What Is Food Noise? A Conceptual Model of Food Cue Reactivity

Daniela Iavarone,^{1,2} Chloe Liberman,¹ Jennifer A. Eisenberg,¹ Elena Gilbert-Gamer,¹ Melissa Burt,¹ Andrea Rizzo,^{1,4} and David S. Moir,^{1,2}

George Ivarsson, Academic Editor

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Ozempic Could Impact

PNAC: PNC10610613
PMD: 2024020

Weight-Loss Drugs Estimated to Save Airlines Millions

A 100-mg dose of semaglutide could mean more fuel needed for flights, but it's a small price to pay for the health benefits, according to a new study.

let Has Gone Overboard

How about impact on health care?

Does Ozempic have mental health side effects? Study reveals

A study of the drug's adverse effects on mental health, including depression, anxiety, and suicidal thoughts, found that the drug's side effects are more common than previously reported.

Ozempic, Wegovy linked to severe medical conditions including stomach problems, study finds

People who take popular weight-loss drugs, such as Ozempic or Wegovy, may be at a higher risk of severe medical conditions, including stomach problems, according to a new study.

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Workers' Comp Use Cases


-  Obese claimants with mobility impairment
May improve function and recovery
-  Use prior to surgery to reduce complications
Preoperative optimization
-  Carrier pushback: cost, duration, unclear ROI
Financial concerns remain significant
-  Diabetics with CV history
Potential for dual metabolic and cardiac benefits

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Key Clinical Trials – CV Impact

Trial	Medication	Outcomes
LEADER	Liraglutide	↓ MACE, ↓ CV death
REWIND	Dulaglutide	↓ MACE
SUSTAIN-6	Semaglutide	↓ stroke, MACE
SELECT	Semaglutide	↓ CV events in obese non-diabetics



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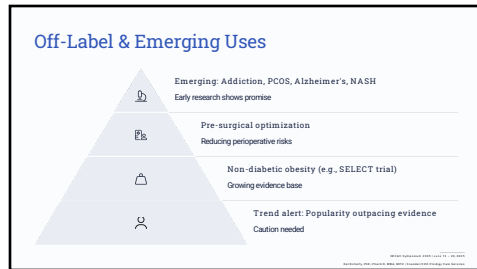
Not All GLP-1s Are Equal

- EXSCEL: No benefit (Exenatide)
Not all GLP-1 medications show cardiovascular benefits
- PIONEER 6: Oral semaglutide similar to injectables
Comparable efficacy between administration routes
- AMPLITUDE-O: Efglenatide → benefit, not FDA-approved
Positive results but regulatory hurdles remain
- Harmony: Abiglutide benefit but withdrawn
Commercial factors can override clinical efficacy

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Workers' Comp Considerations

Protecting your future, every step.

May improve function, reduce surgical risk
Potential benefits for injured workers with metabolic conditions

Off-label use must meet medical necessity
Documentation and justification are critical

Watch for long-term claims with no clinical milestones
Set clear goals and endpoints for therapy

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A Bit of History

workCompWire

WORKERS' COMPENSATION NEWS | FEATURED ARTICLES | LEADERS' OPINION | EDIT

Julie Black: Weight Loss Drugs and Workers' Comp
By Julie Black, Senior Clinical Account Executive, MyMedRx by Evernorth

Ask the Pharmacist: GLP-1 Drugs in Workers' Comp — Enlyte
Aug 13, 2024 — A new trial and drug approvals have led to widespread interest in GLP-1 drugs in 2024, up from 25% of employers that previously covered the ...

The Rise of GLP-1 Agonists: Implications for Workers' Comp
Aug 13, 2024 — The emergence of GLP-1 medications presents both benefits and challenges in the broader workers' compensation landscape, but there is no doubt ...

Weight Loss Drugs and Workers' Comp
Aug 13, 2024 — Weight loss drugs and other associated with workers' compensation claims, but, in recent years, the use of GLP-1 is in the commercial and ...

Weight loss medications in workers' compensation: Impact ...
Mar 28, 2025 — GLP-1 agonists, commonly known as diabetes and weight loss medications, are continuing to increase in usage across the country.

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Powerful tool, not a panacea
Understand limitations

Use for the right patient at the right time
Patient selection is key

Prioritize documented medical necessity and measurable outcomes
Evidence-based approach

"Ozempic isn't a miracle—it's a tool. Use it when it fits the blueprint."

'Ozempic isn't a miracle—it's a tool. Use it when it fits the blueprint.'

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