

GLP-1 MACE Coverage

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BlueCross BlueShield
of Vermont

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Coverage for Wegovy for Prevention of Major Adverse Cardiovascular Outcomes

Blue Cross VT will no longer be covering the GLP1s that are FDA-approved for weight loss, including Wegovy (semaglutide), Zepbound (tirzepatide), and Saxenda (liraglutide)*. The GLP1 medications FDA-approved for Type 2 diabetes control will continue to be covered with prior authorization.

In addition, Wegovy (semaglutide) may be covered for the prevention of major adverse cardiovascular events. **The criteria for MACE prevention are based on the SELECT trial** that demonstrated that weekly semaglutide 2.4 mg, was associated with a statistically significant 20% relative risk reduction in major adverse cardiovascular events (MACE) compared with placebo.

SELECT included 17,604 patients from 41 countries who were overweight or obese with established cardiovascular disease and no history of diabetes. The trial included patients who were 45 years or older, had a body mass index (BMI) of 27 kg/m² or greater, and had established cardiovascular disease defined as either having a prior myocardial infarction, a prior stroke, or symptomatic peripheral artery disease.

The study's primary endpoint was the composite outcome of the first occurrence of MACE defined as cardiovascular death, nonfatal myocardial infarction or nonfatal stroke. This occurred in 8 percent of patients in the placebo group over an average of 40 months follow-up as compared to 6.5 percent of patients in the semaglutide group. So, this represented a 20 percent relative risk reduction, highly significant, with a P value of less than 0.001 for superiority of semaglutide.

Semaglutide also appeared to be safe and well-tolerated among SELECT trial patients, showing consistency with safety results from previous trials. Patients who meet the criteria for the SELECT trial may qualify for coverage of Wegovy. A prior authorization with appropriate documentation should be submitted to Vermont Blue Rx for review by the clinical team.

No other clinical indications will be considered for coverage, including Zepbound for Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA), and Wegovy for metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis (MASH).

*Some self-insured employer plans with BCBSVT may continue to cover these for weight loss

Find more information on the SELECT trial: [The SELECT Trial: A Brief Summary | Cleveland Clinic](#)