



Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Managed Care Organization Transmittal No. 223

Physician Transmittal No. 171

Hospital Transmittal No. 315

September 13, 2024

TO: Managed Care Organizations
Physicians
Hospitals

FROM: Sandra Kick, Director *Sandra E. Kick*
Medical Benefits Management

RE: Coverage of Wegovy for Overweight or Obese Adults with Cardiovascular Disease, Effective September 15, 2024

NOTE: Please ensure that the appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the content of this transmittal.

This transmittal is to inform Medicaid fee-for-service (FFS) providers and HealthChoice managed care organizations (MCOs) about Maryland Medicaid coverage of Wegovy for adults who are overweight or obese and have cardiovascular disease. For this population, Wegovy can be used to reduce the risk of cardiovascular death, heart attack, and stroke.

On March 8, 2024, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved a new indication for Wegovy for overweight and obese adults with cardiovascular disease. FDA labeling for Wegovy now indicates that, in combination with a reduced calorie diet and increased physical activity, Wegovy can help limit risk for additional major adverse cardiovascular events in adults who are obese or overweight. Wegovy contains semaglutide, a glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor agonist, and should not be used in combination with other semaglutide-containing products or other GLP-1 receptor agonists.

For more information on Wegovy administration, please see the FDA news release at <https://bitly.cx/Fu0bw>.

Coverage Criteria

Effective September 15, 2024, Wegovy will be considered for FFS coverage when the patient:

- Is 18 years of age or older;
- Has established and documented atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD);
- Is overweight or obese;
- Does not have type 1 or type 2 diabetes; and
- Is prescribed in accordance with prescribing information.

All of the preauthorization criteria must be met and confirmed with supporting medical documentation. To view the Medicaid FFS criteria in full, visit <https://bit.ly/3X3S0jY>. MCOs must also cover Wegovy in accordance with the FFS preauthorization criteria.

Wegovy will **not** be covered when the sole indication is for chronic weight management for patients that are either obese (BMI 30) or overweight (BMI 27) with comorbidities.

The Medicaid FFS program will reimburse Wegovy under HCPCS code J3490 and will be priced per invoice. Billable units are defined as 1 ml. For information about clinical criteria and reimbursement by HealthChoice MCOs, please contact the MCOs directly.

For Fee-For-Service questions about this transmittal, please contact Professional Services at mdh.professionalservicespolicy@maryland.gov; for HealthChoice related questions, please contact mdh.healthchoiceprovider@maryland.gov.