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GLP-1 Prescribing At-a-Glance

Primary Care Provider Quick Reference

Prescribing GLP-1 receptor agonists for KPWA members has become increasingly complex due to rapidly evolving FDA-approved indications, differences in benefit design across Commercial and Medicare plans, varying prior authorization requirements, and the introduction of alternative coverage pathways such as the CMS GLP-1 Bridge Program. Coverage eligibility may depend on factors including diagnosis, comorbid conditions, formulary status, and member-specific benefit structure, and criteria can differ significantly between products and insurance programs.

This quick reference was developed to help primary care providers more efficiently navigate GLP-1 prescribing decisions and documentation expectations across KPWA Commercial, Medicare, and CMS Bridge Program populations. The intent is to support timely patient access to appropriate therapy, reduce administrative burden, improve prior authorization success, and provide a practical point-of-care resource when evaluating treatment options for obesity and related cardiometabolic conditions. ***Diagnosis alone does not guarantee coverage; therefore, providers should use this guide in conjunction with current plan benefit information and applicable clinical documentation requirements. For questions regarding specific member coverage, please contact the Pharmacy Help Desk at 1-800-729-1174.***

Note: Current chart notes and laboratory results should accompany requests. CoverMyMeds can be used to initiate PA submission. Fax in most recent chart notes & lab results to 1-866-439-0050. Reviews typically take about 5 calendar days.

> ***Clinical takeaway: For obesity indications, verify member-specific benefits before prescribing and submitting prior authorization documentation.***

Commercial Plans – Prior Authorization (PA) Required with additional criteria

Liraglutide (Generic Victoza)	Semaglutide (Ozempic/Wegovy)	Tirzepatide (Mounjaro/Zepbound)	Coverage Notes
Type 2 Diabetes Type 1 Diabetes ASCVD + BMI ≥27 Severe OSA & BMI ≥30 F2/F3 MASH	Type 2 Diabetes Type 1 Diabetes ASCVD + BMI ≥27 Severe OSA & BMI ≥30 F2/F3 MASH	Type 2 Diabetes Type 1 Diabetes Severe OSA & BMI ≥30 F2/F3 MASH	Weight loss coverage depends on benefit plan. Often excluded unless supplemental rider present. (e.g. Federal plans)

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Medicare Plans - Prior Authorization (PA) or a Non-Formulary Exception typically required. Medicare coverage may be available for FDA-labeled indications and products. Additional criteria may be required.

Liraglutide (Generic Victoza)	Semaglutide (Ozempic/Wegovy)	Tirzepatide (Mounjaro/Zepbound)	Weight Loss Coverage
Type 2 Diabetes	Type 2 Diabetes (Ozempic) ASCVD & BMI ≥ 27 (Wegovy) F2/F3 MASH (Wegovy)	Type 2 Diabetes (Mounjaro) Moderate-Severe OSA & BMI ≥ 30 (Zepbound)	Weight loss coverage depends on benefit plan. Often excluded unless supplemental rider present. (e.g. Federal plans)

Medicare Part D vs CMS Bridge Program - Consider CMS Bridge Program for eligible Medicare members not covered under their Part D benefit.

Ordering Tip: Document "Process to CMS Bridge" in Notes to Pharmacy and include qualifying diagnoses (e.g., BMI 30–34 and CKD stage 3). If the medication and patient are eligible, a request for prior authorization will be sent through usual channels such as fax or CoverMyMeds.

CMS Bridge Program Overview	Clinical Eligibility at GLP-1 Initiation*
• Demonstration project: 7/1/2026–12/31/2027 • Managed outside Medicare Part D • Includes Wegovy, Zepbound KwikPen, and Foundayo • Members currently covered under Part D for Type 2 Diabetes, clinical ASCVD, moderate-to-severe OSA, or MASH are **NOT** eligible • Bridge pharmacy claim starts the process; providers cannot proactively submit a PA • Approved members pay a $50 copay	BMI ≥35: No additional diagnosis required BMI ≥30 plus one of below conditions: • HFpEF • Uncontrolled hypertension • CKD stage 3a or higher BMI ≥27 plus one of below conditions: • Prediabetes • Previous myocardial infarction • Previous stroke • Symptomatic peripheral artery disease

*BMI and comorbidities are evaluated at the time GLP-1 therapy is initiated. Diagnosis alone does not guarantee approval.

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