

Semaglutide for reducing the risk of major adverse cardiovascular events in people with cardiovascular disease and overweight or obesity

Information for the public

Published: 7 May 2026

www.nice.org.uk

Semaglutide (Wegovy, up to a maintenance dose of 2.4 mg once weekly), used alongside a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity, is available on the NHS. It is a possible treatment for reducing the risk of a major adverse cardiovascular event (that is, death from a condition of the heart or blood vessels, or a non-fatal heart attack or stroke) in adults with:

- established cardiovascular disease, defined as at least 1 of the following:
 - previous myocardial infarction
 - previous ischaemic or haemorrhagic stroke
 - symptomatic peripheral arterial disease
- a body mass index (BMI) of at least 27 kg/m².

Is this treatment right for me?

Your healthcare professionals should give you clear information, talk with you about your options and listen carefully to your views and concerns. Your family can be involved too, if you wish. See [our webpage on shared decision making](#).

Questions to think about

- How well does it work compared with other treatments?
- What are the risks or side effects? How likely are they?
- How will the treatment affect my day-to-day life?
- What happens if the treatment does not work?
- What happens if I do not want to have treatment? Are there other treatments available?

Information and support

The [NHS webpage on cardiovascular disease](#) may be a good place to find out more.

These organisations can give you advice and support:

- [All About obesity](#), admin@allaboutobesity.org
- [Obesity Health Alliance](#), info@obesityhealthalliance.org.uk
- [Pumping Marvellous](#), 01772 796542
- [Kidney Care UK](#), 0808 801 00 00
- [Kidney Research UK](#), 0300 303 1100

You can also get support from your local [Healthwatch](#).

NICE is not responsible for the quality or accuracy of any information or advice provided by these organisations.

ISBN: 978-1-4731-9491-5