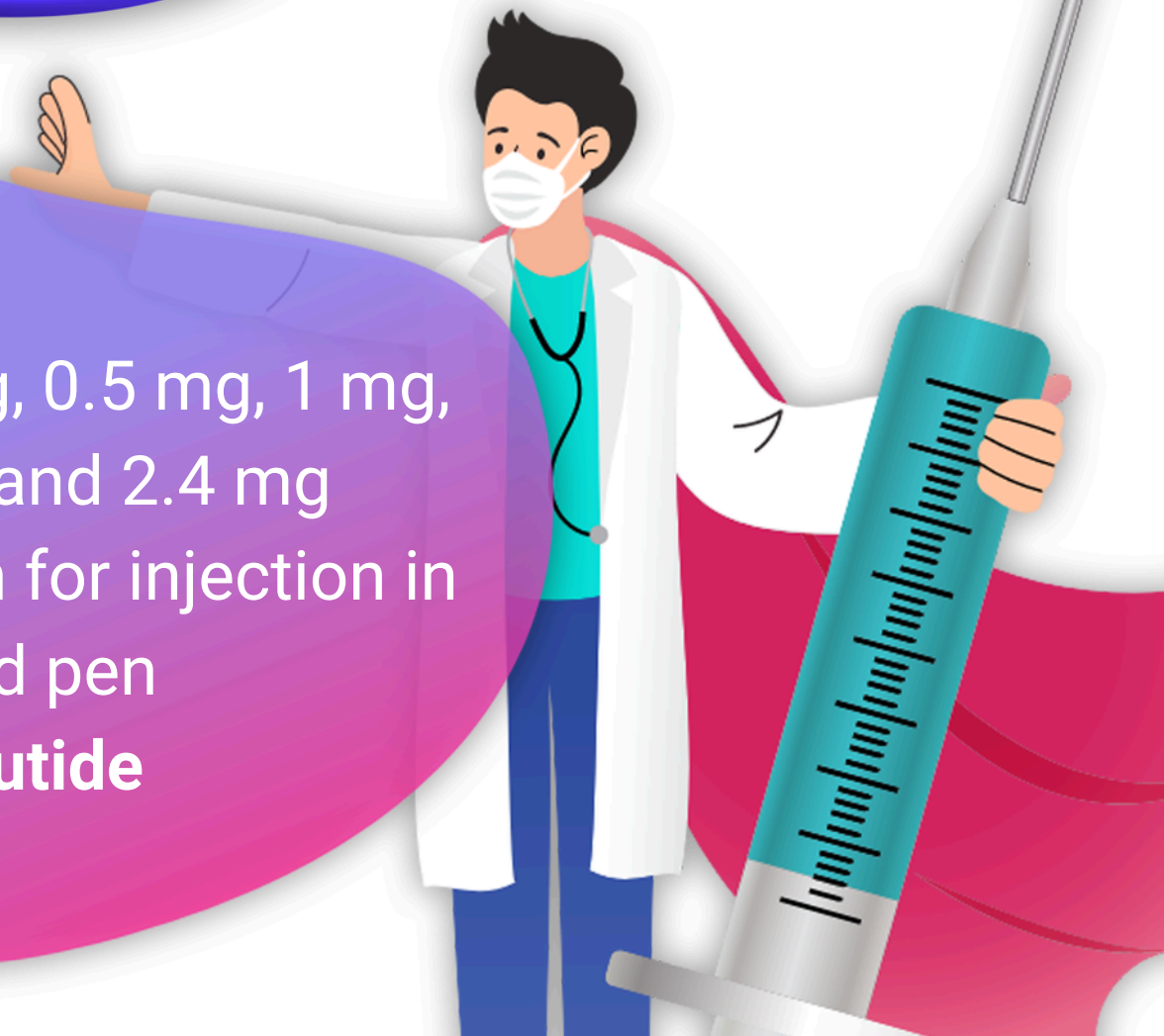




# Getting started with Wegovy<sup>®</sup> (Semaglutide)

0.25 mg, 0.5 mg, 1 mg,  
1.7 mg and 2.4 mg  
solution for injection in  
pre-filled pen  
**semaglutide**



**This medicine is subject to additional monitoring. This will allow quick identification of new safety information. You can help by reporting any side effects you may get.**

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start using this medicine because it contains important information for you.**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet.

**The information contained in this leaflet has been sourced from Novo Nordisk Limited via [medicines.org.uk](https://www.medicines.org.uk). Last updated: January 2025.**

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# What is Wegovy® and what is it used for

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Wegovy® is a medicine for weight loss and weight maintenance that contains the active substance semaglutide. It is similar to a natural hormone called glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) that is released from the intestine after a meal.

Wegovy® works by acting on receptors in the brain that control your appetite, causing you to feel fuller and less hungry and experience less craving for food. This will help you eat less food and reduce your body weight. Wegovy should be used with a reduced calorie meal plan and increased physical activity.

## What Wegovy® is used for

Wegovy® is used for weight loss and weight maintenance in addition to diet and physical activity in adults, who have:

- A BMI of 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or greater (with obesity) or
- A BMI of 27 kg/m<sup>2</sup> and less than 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup> (overweight) and weight-related health problems.

BMI (Body Mass Index) is a measure of your weight in relation to your height.

# What you need to know before you use Wegovy®

## Do not use Wegovy®

If you are allergic to semaglutide or any of the other ingredients of this medicine.



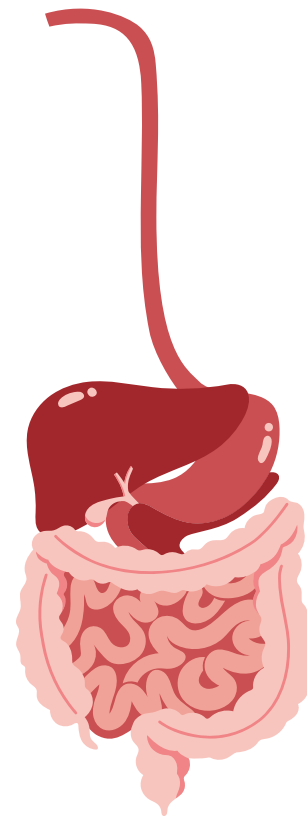
## Warnings and precautions

Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse before using this medicine. This medicine is not an insulin and should not be used if:



## Effects on the digestive system

During treatment with this medicine, you may feel sick (nausea) or be sick (vomiting), or have diarrhoea. These side effects can cause dehydration (loss of fluids). It is important that you drink plenty of fluids to prevent dehydration. This is especially important if you have kidney problems. **Talk to your doctor if you have any questions or concerns.**



## Inflammation of the pancreas



If you have severe and on-going pain in the stomach area – see a doctor straight away as this could be a sign of acute pancreatitis (acute pancreas).

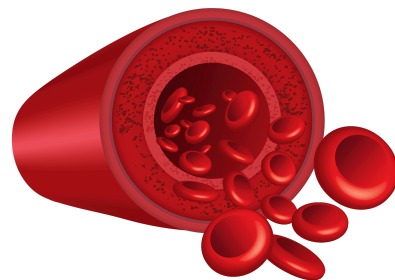
## Diabetes

Wegovy® must not be used as a substitute for insulin.



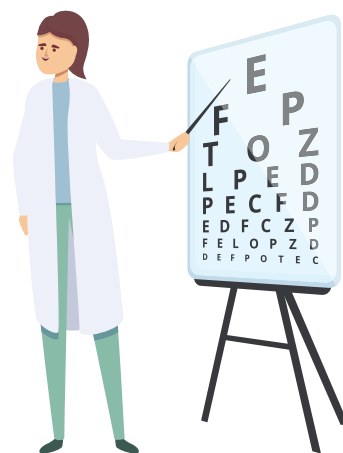
## Low blood sugar (hypoglycaemia)

Taking a sulfonylurea or an insulin with Wegovy® might increase the risk of getting low blood sugar levels (hypoglycaemia). Your doctor may ask you to test your blood sugar levels. This will help your doctor decide if the dose of the sulfonylurea or insulin needs to be changed to reduce the risk of low blood sugar.



## Diabetic eye disease (retinopathy)

Fast improvements in blood sugar control may lead to a temporary worsening of diabetic eye disease. If you have diabetic eye disease and experience eye problems while taking this medicine, talk to your doctor.



## Children and adolescents

Wegovy® is used together with diet and physical activity for weight management in adolescents with obesity aged 12 years or older.



## **Other medicines and Wegovy®**

Tell your doctor, pharmacist or nurse if you are using, have recently used or might use any other medicines.

## **Pregnancy and breast-feeding**

This medicine should not be used during pregnancy, as it is not known if it may affect your unborn child. Therefore, it is recommended to use contraception while using this medicine. If you wish to become pregnant, you should stop using this medicine at least two months in advance. If you become or are pregnant, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby when using this medicine, talk to your doctor straight away, as your treatment will need to be stopped.

You should not use this medicine if you are breast-feeding, as it is unknown if it passes into breast milk.

## **Driving and using machines**

Wegovy® is unlikely to affect your ability to drive and use machines. Some patients may feel dizzy when taking Wegovy® mainly during the first 3 months of treatment.

If you feel dizzy you should not drive or operate machines until you feel better. If you need any further information, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.



**For diabetics using** this medicine in combination with a sulfonylurea or insulin, low blood sugar (hypoglycaemia) may occur which may reduce your ability to concentrate. Do not drive or use machines if you get any signs of low blood sugar. See section, 'Warning and precautions' for information on increased risk of low blood sugar and the warning signs of low blood sugar. Talk to your doctor for further information.

## **Sodium content**

This medicine contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per dose, i.e. essentially 'sodium-free'.

## **Surgery Endoscopy or Colonoscopy**

If you are planning for any surgery under general anaesthesia or interventions like endoscopy or colonoscopy please inform your specialist that you are on this weight loss medication and hold off this medication 2 weeks before the surgery. Restart this medication one week after you are feeling better and back to your normal self. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

If you are having an emergency surgery or urgent procedure, please mention to the doctors involved in your care that you are on this weight loss medication.

# How to use Wegovy®

Always use this medicine exactly as your doctor has told you. Check with your doctor, pharmacist or nurse if you are not sure.

## How much to use

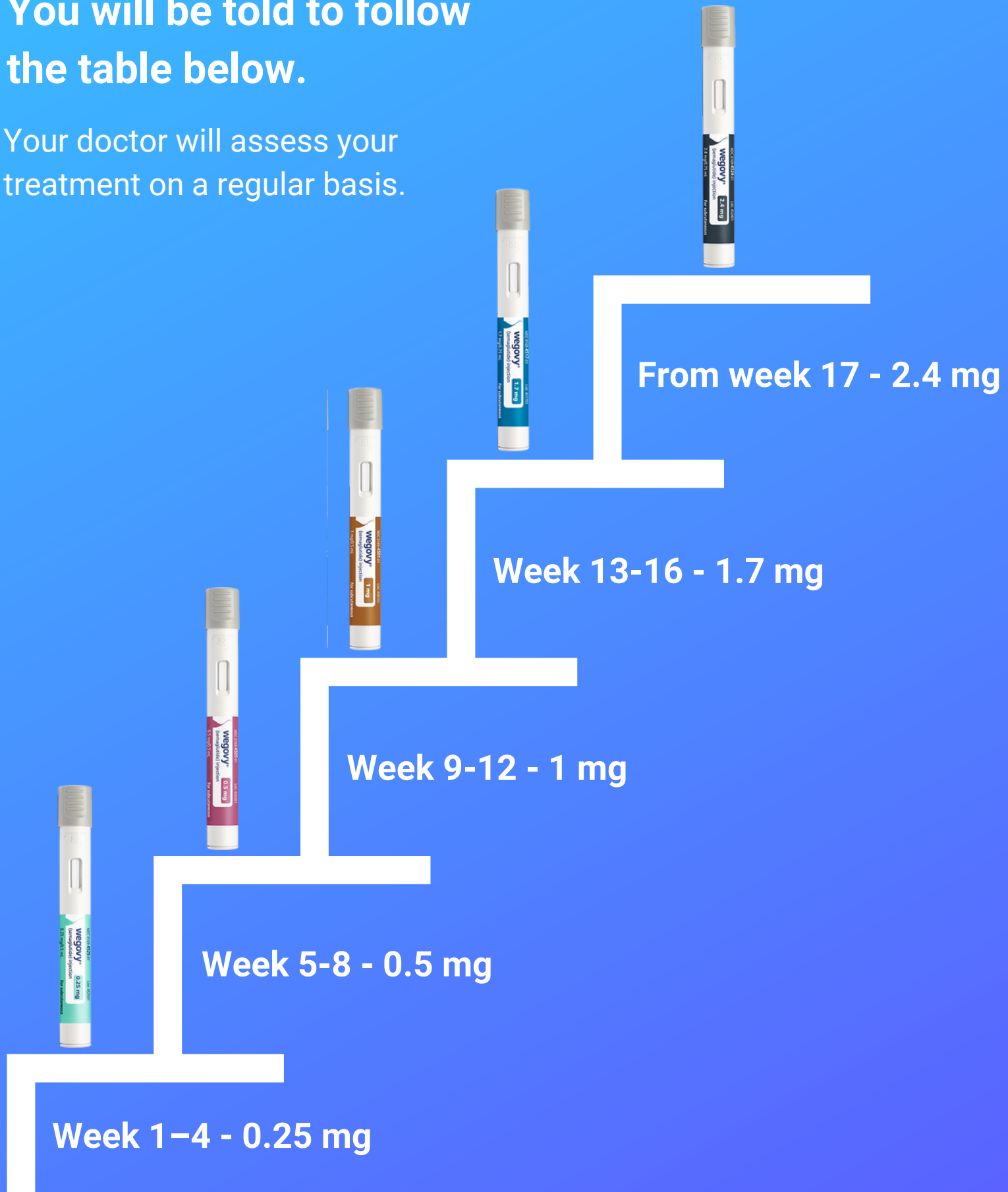
The recommended dose is 2.4 mg once weekly. Your treatment will start at a low dose which will be gradually increased over 16 weeks of treatment as follows:

- When you first start using Wegovy®, the starting dose is 0.25 mg once weekly.
- Your doctor will instruct you to gradually increase your dose every 4 weeks until you reach the recommended dose of 2.4 mg once weekly.
- Once you reach the recommended dose of 2.4 mg, do not increase this dose further.



**You will be told to follow the table below.**

Your doctor will assess your treatment on a regular basis.



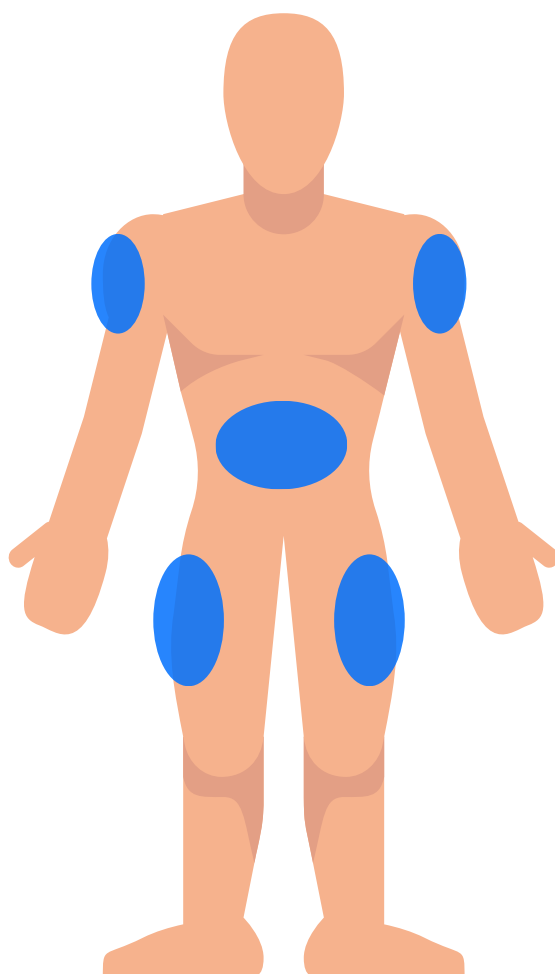
## How Wegovy® is given

Wegovy® is given as an injection under the skin (subcutaneous injection). Do not inject it into a vein or muscle.

- The best places to give the injection are the upper arms, stomach or upper legs.
- Before you use the pen for the first time, ask your doctor or nurse how to use it.

Detailed instructions for use are at the back of this leaflet.

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## When to use Wegovy®

- You should use this medicine once a week and if possible, on the same day each week.
- You can give yourself the injection at any time of the day – regardless of meals.

If necessary, you can change the day of your weekly injection of this medicine as long as it has been at least 3 days since your last injection. After selecting a new dosing day, continue with once a week dosing.



## If you use more Wegovy® than you should

Talk to your doctor straight away. You may get side effects such as feeling sick (nausea).



## If you forget to use Wegovy®

If you forgot to inject a dose and:

- It is 5 days or less since you should have used Wegovy®, use it as soon as you remember. Then inject your next dose as usual on your scheduled day.
- It is more than 5 days since you should have used Wegovy®, skip the missed dose. Then inject your next dose as usual on your next scheduled day. Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten dose.



## If you stop using Wegovy®

Do not stop using this medicine without talking to your doctor.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor, pharmacist or nurse.



# Possible side effects of Wegovy®

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

## Serious side effects

**Common:** may affect up to 1 in 10 people

- Complications of diabetic eye disease (diabetic retinopathy). If you have diabetes you should inform your doctor if you experience eye problems, such as changes in vision, during treatment with this medicine.

**Uncommon:** may affect up to 1 in 100 people

- Inflamed pancreas (acute pancreatitis). Signs of inflamed pancreas may include severe and long lasting pain in your stomach, the pain may move to your back. You should see your doctor immediately if you experience such symptoms.

**Rare:** may affect up to 1 in 1,000 people

- Severe allergic reactions (anaphylactic reactions, angioedema). You should seek immediate medical help and inform your doctor straight away if you get symptoms such as breathing problems, swelling of face, lips, tongue, and/or throat with difficulty swallowing, wheezing, fast heartbeat, pale and cold skin, feeling dizzy or weak.

## Other side effects

**Very common:** may affect more than 1 in 10 people

- Headache
- Feeling sick (nausea)
- Being sick (vomiting)
- Diarrhoea
- Constipation
- Stomach pain
- Feeling weak or tired

These usually go away over time.





**Common:** may affect more than 1 in 10 people

- Feeling dizzy
- Upset stomach or indigestion
- Burping
- Gas (flatulence)
- Bloating of the stomach
- Inflamed stomach ('gastritis') – the signs include stomach ache, feeling sick (nausea) or being sick (vomiting)
- Reflux or heartburn – also called 'gastro-oesophageal reflux disease'
- Gallstones
- Hair loss
- Injection site reactions
- Low blood sugar (hypoglycaemia) in patients with diabetes

The warning signs of low blood sugar may come on suddenly. They can include: cold sweat, cool pale skin, headache, fast heartbeat, feeling sick (nausea) or very hungry, changes in vision, feeling sleepy or weak, feeling nervous, anxious or confused, difficulty concentrating or shaking. Your doctor will tell you how to treat low blood sugar and what to do if you notice these warning signs.

Low blood sugar is more likely to happen if you also take a sulfonylurea or insulin. Your doctor may reduce your dose of these medicines before you start using this medicine.

**Uncommon:** may affect up to 1 in 100 people

- Fast heartbeat
- Increase of pancreatic enzymes (such as lipase and amylase) shown in blood tests.

## **Additional rare side effect**

Semaglutide, a medication used to treat type 2 diabetes and obesity, has been linked to a potential increased risk of Non-Arteritic Anterior Ischemic Optic Neuropathy (NAION), a rare eye condition.

NAION is a sudden loss of vision due to damage to the optic nerve, often caused by a lack of blood flow. Semaglutide may increase the risk of NAION due to its mechanism of action, which includes:

1. Vasoconstriction (narrowing of blood vessels)
2. Increased blood pressure
3. Fluid retention

### **Symptoms of NAION may include:**

- Sudden loss of vision or blurred vision
- Blind spots or missing areas of vision
- Pain or discomfort in the eye

If you experience any of these symptoms while taking semaglutide, seek medical attention immediately.

The FDA has issued warnings and updates regarding the potential risk of NAION with semaglutide, and it's essential to discuss the benefits and risks with your healthcare provider.

### **To put the risk into perspective:**

- NAION is rare, occurring in approximately 1 in 38,000 to 1 in 100,000 people per year.
- The increased risk associated with semaglutide is still low, but it's essential to be aware of the potential risk.

Regular eye exams and monitoring can help detect any potential issues early on.

## **Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via:

### **United Kingdom**

Yellow Card Scheme

Website: [www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard](http://www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard) or search for MHRA

Yellow Card in the Google Play or Apple App Store

By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

# How to store Wegovy®

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Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the pen label and carton after 'EXP'. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not freeze Wegovy® and do not use it if it has been frozen.

Keep the pen cap on in order to protect from light.

## **Before opening:**

Store in a refrigerator (2°C to 8°C). Keep away from the cooling element.

## **During use:**

- You can keep the pen for 6 weeks when stored at a temperature below 30°C or in a refrigerator (2°C to 8°C) away from cooling element.



Do not use this medicine if you notice that the solution is not clear and colourless or almost colourless.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.



# Contents of the pack and other information

## What Wegovy® contains

- The active substance is semaglutide.
- The other ingredients are disodium phosphate dihydrate, propylene glycol, phenol, sodium hydroxide/hydrochloric acid (for pH adjustment), water for injection.

### Wegovy® 0.25 mg FlexTouch solution for injection

One mL of solution contains 0.68 mg of semaglutide. One pre-filled pen contains 1.0 mg semaglutide in 1.5 mL solution

### Wegovy® 0.5 mg FlexTouch solution for injection

One mL of solution contains 1.34 mg of semaglutide. One pre-filled pen contains 2.0 mg semaglutide in 1.5 mL solution

### wegovy® 1 mg FlexTouch solution for injection

One mL of solution contains 1.34 mg of semaglutide. One pre-filled pen contains 4.0 mg semaglutide in 3 mL solution

### Wegovy® 1.7 mg FlexTouch solution for injection

One mL of solution contains 2.27 mg of semaglutide. One pre-filled pen contains 6.8 mg semaglutide in 3 mL solution

### Wegovy® 2.4 mg FlexTouch solution for injection

One mL of solution contains 3.2 mg of semaglutide. One pre-filled pen contains 9.6mg of semaglutide in 3 mL solution

## What Wegovy® looks like and contents of the pack

Wegovy® is a clear and colourless solution for injection in a pre-filled disposable pen.

Each FlexTouch pen contains four doses. The pack size of each strength of Wegovy® contains 1 prefilled pen and 4 disposable NovoFine Plus needles.

Your pen is designed to be used with NovoFine Plus, NovoFine or NovoTwist disposable needles up to a length of 8 mm

## Marketing Authorisation Holder and Manufacturer

Novo Nordisk A/S  
Novo Allé  
DK-2880 Bagsværd  
Denmark

# Instructions on how to use Wegovy® FlexTouch

Before you begin using your once-weekly Wegovy® FlexTouch pen, **always read these instructions carefully**, and talk to your doctor, nurse or pharmacist about how to inject Wegovy® correctly.

Wegovy® FlexTouch pen is a dial-a-dose pen that **contains four of your prescribed doses of Wegovy®, to be used once a week for 4 weeks.**

Please use the table inside the lid of the carton to keep track of how many injections you have taken and how many doses remain in your pen.

Wegovy® FlexTouch comes in five different strengths, each containing one of the following prescribed doses of semaglutide:

0.25 mg

0.5 mg

1 mg

1.7 mg

2.4 mg

**Always start by checking your pen label to make sure that it contains your prescribed dose of Wegovy®.**



Your pen is designed to be used with NovoFine Plus, NovoFine or NovoTwist disposable needles up to a length of 8 mm. **The pack contains:**

- Wegovy® FlexTouch pen
- 4 NovoFine Plus needles
- Leaflet



# 1. Prepare your pen with a new needle

- **Check the name and dose** of your pen to make sure it contains your prescribed dose of Wegovy®.
- **Pull off the pen cap.**
- **Check that the Wegovy® in your pen is clear and colourless.** Look through the pen window. If Wegovy® looks cloudy or coloured, do not use the pen.
- **Always use a new needle for each injection**
- **Take a needle** when you are ready to take your injection. Check the paper tab and the outer needle cap for damages. If you see any damage, this could affect sterility. Dispose of it and use a new needle.
- **Tear off the paper tab**
- **Push the needle straight onto the pen. Turn until it is on tight.**
- **The needle is covered by two caps. You must remove both caps.** If you forget to remove both caps you will not inject any Wegovy®.
- **Pull off the outer needle cap and keep it for later.** You will need it to safely remove the needle from the pen after the injection.

- **Pull off the inner needle cap and dispose of it.** A drop of Wegovy® may appear at the needle tip. You must still check the Wegovy® flow if you use a new pen for the first time. See '**Check the flow with each new pen**'.
- Never use a bent or damaged needle. For more information about needle handling, see '**About your needles**' below these instructions.
- **Check the flow with each new pen**
- Only check the Wegovy® flow before your **first injection with each new pen**. If your Wegovy® pen is already in use, go to '**2 Set your dose**'. Turn the dose selector until you see the flow check symbol.
- Make sure the flow check symbol lines up with the dose pointer.
- **Check the flow**
- Hold the pen with the needle pointing up. Press and hold in the dose button until the dose counter returns to 0. The 0 must line up with the dose pointer. A drop of Wegovy® should appear at the needle tip. This drop indicates that your pen is ready for use. If a drop does not appear, check the flow again. This should only be done twice. If there is still no drop, change the needle and check the flow once more. Do not use the pen if a drop of Wegovy® still does not appear.

## 2. Set your dose

- Turn the dose selector until the **dose counter stops**, and it **shows your prescribed dose**.
- The dashed line in the dose counter will guide you to your dose. The dose selector clicks differently when turned forward, backwards or past your dose. You will hear a 'click' every time you turn the dose selector. Do not set the dose by counting the number of clicks you hear.
- **When your prescribed dose lines up with the dose pointer, you have selected your dose.**
- If the dose counter stops before you reach your prescribed dose, see the section **'Do you have enough Wegovy®?'** below these instructions.
- **Choose your injection site**
  - Choose upper arms, stomach or upper legs (keep a 5 cm distance from your belly button).
  - You may inject in the same body area each week, but make sure it is not in the same spot as used the last time.

### 3. Inject your dose

- **Insert the needle into your skin.**
- **Make sure you can see the dose counter.** Do not cover it with your fingers. This could interrupt the injection.
- **Press and hold down the dose button until the dose counter shows**
- **Keep pressing the dose button with the needle in your skin and slowly count to 6.**
- **Remove the needle from your skin.** If the needle is removed earlier, a stream of Wegovy® may come from the needle tip and the full dose will not be delivered.
- If blood appears at the injection site, press lightly on the area to stop the bleeding.
- You may see a drop of Wegovy® at the needle tip after injecting. This is normal and does not affect your dose.

## 4. After your injection

- **Lead the needle tip into the outer needle cap** on a flat surface without touching the needle or the outer needle cap.
- **Once the needle is covered**, carefully push the outer needle cap completely on.
- **Unscrew the needle** and dispose of it carefully as instructed by your doctor, nurse, pharmacist or local authorities.
- **Never try to put the inner needle cap back on the needle.** You may stick yourself with the needle.
- **Always dispose of the needle immediately after each injection** to prevent blocked needles, contamination, infection and inaccurate dosing. **Never store your pen with the needle attached.**
- **Put the pen cap on** your pen after each use to protect Wegovy® from light.
- When the pen is empty, dispose of the pen without a needle on as instructed by your doctor, nurse, pharmacist or local authorities. The pen cap and the empty carton can be disposed of in your household waste.

## About your needles

Needles are medical devices.

## How to identify a blocked or damaged needle?

- If 0 does not appear in the dose counter after continuously pressing the dose button, you may have used a blocked or damaged needle.
- In this case, you have **not** received any Wegovy® – even though the dose counter has moved from the original dose that you have set.



## How to handle a blocked needle?

- Change the needle as instructed in **'1 Prepare your pen with a new needle'** and go to **'2 Set your dose'**.

## Caring for your pen

- Treat your pen with care. Rough handling or misuse may cause inaccurate dosing. If this happens, you might not get the intended effect of Wegovy®.
- Read the storage conditions for your pen
- **Do not inject Wegovy® that has been exposed to direct sunlight.**
- **Do not subject Wegovy® to frost and never inject Wegovy® that has been frozen.** Dispose of the pen.
- **Do not drop your pen** or knock it against hard surfaces
- **Do not try to refill your pen.** Once empty, it must be disposed of.
- **Do not try to repair your pen** or pull it apart.
- **Do not expose your pen to dust, dirt or liquid.**
- **Do not wash, soak or lubricate your pen.** If necessary, clean it with a mild detergent on a moistened cloth.

## Do you have enough Wegovy®?

If the dose counter stops before you reach your prescribed dose, there is not enough Wegovy® left for a full dose. Dispose of the pen and use a new Wegovy® FlexTouch pen.



## Important information

- **Only inject one dose of Wegovy® once weekly.** If you do not take your Wegovy® as prescribed, you may not get the intended effect of this medicine.
- If you take more than one type of injectable medicine, it is very **important to check the name and dose** of your pen label **before use.**
- **Do not use this pen without help if you have poor eyesight and cannot follow these instructions.** Get help from a person with good eyesight who is trained to use the Wegovy® FlexTouch pen.
- Always keep pen and needles **out of sight and reach of others, especially children.**
- **Never share** your pen or your needles with other people.
- **Needles are for single use only. Never reuse your needles** as it may lead to blocked needles, contamination, infection and inaccurate dosing.
- Caregivers must **be very careful when handling used needles** to prevent accidental needle stick injuries and infection.

# Special warnings and precautions for use

Oral semaglutide should not be used in patients with type 1 diabetes mellitus or for the treatment of diabetic ketoacidosis.

## Gastrointestinal effects

Use of GLP-1 receptor agonists may be associated with gastrointestinal adverse reactions that can cause dehydration, which in rare cases can lead to a deterioration of the renal function. The same patients may experience altered bowel habits. GLP-1 receptor agonists may slow down intestinal movement and cause constipation. This condition may last for a long duration. Slowing of intestinal movement is called gastroparesis (delayed gastric emptying due to paralysis of the stomach).

## Acute pancreatitis

Acute pancreatitis has been observed with the use of GLP-1 receptor agonists. Patients should be informed of the characteristic symptoms of acute pancreatitis. If pancreatitis is suspected, oral semaglutide should not be restarted.

Caution should be exercised in patients with a history of pancreatitis. In the absence of other signs and symptoms of acute pancreatitis, elevations in pancreatic enzymes alone are not predictive of acute pancreatitis.

## **Hypoglycaemia**

Insulin and sulfonylurea are known to cause hypoglycaemia. Patients treated with oral semaglutide in combination with sulfonylurea or insulin may have an increased risk of hypoglycaemia. The risk of hypoglycaemia can be lowered by reducing the dose of sulfonylurea or insulin when initiating treatment with oral semaglutide.

## **Diabetic retinopathy**

Rapid improvement in glucose control has been associated with a temporary worsening of diabetic retinopathy. Long-term glycemic control decreases the risk of diabetic retinopathy. Patients with a history of diabetic retinopathy should be monitored for worsening and treated and according to clinical guidelines.

## **Heart failure**

There is no therapeutic experience in patients with congestive heart failure New York Heart Association (NYHA) class IV.

## **Oral contraceptives and pregnancy**

Please be aware oral contraceptives may not be effective if you are currently on semaglutide such as Wegovy. In some people absorption oral contraceptive pills may be impaired when they are on semaglutide.

It is always important to adopt other contraceptive methods including barrier methods of contraception.

*If you are not able to tolerate Wegovy and have any serious side effects and/or having continuing side effects, please go to see your General Practitioner or visit the nearest Accident & Emergency department.*

**The information contained in this leaflet has been sourced from Novo Nordisk Limited via [medicines.org.uk](https://www.medicines.org.uk).  
Last updated: January 2025.**

