

Wegovy GLP-1

Oral Pill vs. Pen



The first, and currently only, glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) pill approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for weight loss is now available by prescription. With the recent approval of the oral Wegovy pill, patients seeking semaglutide for weight loss now have a needle-free alternative to the injectable pen. Both options contain the same active ingredient and deliver similar weight loss benefits, but they differ in several important ways.



	Wegovy Oral Pill	Wegovy Pen
Dosage Frequency	Daily	Weekly
Dose Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be taken first thing in the morning on an empty stomach with no more than 4 oz of plain water. Wait at least 30 minutes before eating, drinking anything else or taking other medications. Avoid splitting, crushing or chewing the pill. 	Subcutaneous injection; flexible timing
Typical dosage schedule	<p>Days 1-30: 1.5 mg daily</p> <p>Days 31-60: 4 mg daily</p> <p>Days 61-90: 9 mg daily</p> <p>Days 91 and after: 25 mg daily</p>	<p>Weeks 1-4: 0.25 mg weekly</p> <p>Weeks 5-8: 0.5 mg weekly</p> <p>Weeks 9-12: 1 mg weekly</p> <p>Weeks 13-16: 1.7 mg weekly</p> <p>Weeks 17 and beyond: 2.4 mg weekly</p>
Absorption	Less than 1% reaches the bloodstream; typically requires a higher dose.	More predictable absorption; lower max dose due to bypassing the digestive tract.
Storage	At room temperature; keep in the container.	Lasts longest when refrigerated, but can be stored at room temperature for up to 28 days.
Approved Uses	<p>With a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce the risk of major cardiovascular events. Help adults with obesity or excess weight and at least one weight-related medical issue lose weight. 	<p>With a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce the risk of major cardiovascular events. Help adults with obesity or excess weight and at least one weight-related medical issue lose weight. Help children 12 years and older lose weight. Treat adults with MASH with liver scarring.
Side Effects	Gastrointestinal side effects: May feel more intense due to oral absorption requirements.	Gastrointestinal side effects: Weekly dosing may make symptoms less severe.
Cost	<p>With insurance: as little as \$25/month</p> <p>Without insurance: an estimated \$149-\$299/month</p>	<p>With insurance: as little as \$25-\$100/month</p> <p>Without insurance: an estimated \$900-\$1,300/month, less with prescription discount cards</p>

If you are interested in learning more about treatments for weight loss, discuss these options with your health care provider to determine if Wegovy is right for you. The right treatment will depend on your medical profile, lifestyle, personal preferences, medical history and insurance coverage, which may affect what's accessible or affordable. Reviewing these factors with your care team can help you select the Wegovy formulation that fits your needs and supports your health goals.