

# Weight Management Medications

## Cost Comparison Chart

### Recommendations for Weight Management<sup>1</sup>

**Lifestyle Interventions:** Diet, exercise, and behavior modification are the preferred methods for treatment of adults who are overweight or obese.

**Medications:** Pharmacologic therapy, which can produce short-term weight loss, should be reserved for patients with a BMI  $\geq 30$ , or a BMI  $\geq 27$  and a weight-related comorbidity such as hypertension, dyslipidemia, or type 2 diabetes. Phentermine/topiramate ER (Qsymia) is the most effective FDA-approved weight loss drug available to date.

**Devices:** Devices such as the vagal blocking device, gastric aspiration device, and gastric balloons have produced short-term weight loss.

**Surgery:** Bariatric surgery has been the most effective treatment for long-term weight loss and reduction of obesity-related comorbidities.

**Pregnancy:** Weight loss drugs, including over-the-counter medications, are not recommended for use during pregnancy.

Brand Name	Generic Name	Strength	GoodRx Price/Unit	GoodRx Price/30 Days
<b>Lipase Inhibitor</b>				
<i>Alli</i> available as OTC	orlistat	60mg cap	\$ 0.53	\$50.35/90
<b>Xenical</b>		120mg cap	\$ 7.59	\$780.55/90
2.5-3.4 kg mean weight loss/35-73% patients with weight loss $\geq 5\%$ <sup>1</sup>				
<b>Sympathomimetic Amines</b>				
Didrex	benzphetamine	25mg tab	\$ 0.67	\$40.05/60
		50mg tab	\$ 0.41	\$36.93/90
Lomaira	phentermine	8mg tab	\$ 0.28	\$25.08/90
Adipex-P		15mg cap	\$ 0.47	\$13.95/30
		30mg cap	\$ 0.52	\$15.63/30
		37.5mg cap	\$ 0.37	\$11.13/30
		37.5mg tab	\$ 0.55	\$16.45/30
Tepanil/ Tenuate	diethylpropion	25mg tab	\$ 0.22	\$20.13/90
		75mg ER tab	\$ 0.63	\$18.84/30
Bontril PDM	phendimetrazine	35mg tab	\$ 0.14	\$8.46/60
Bontril		105mg ER cap	\$ 0.87	\$26.08/30
Most studies have reported an additional weight loss of only a fraction of a pound/week compared to placebo-treated patients <sup>1</sup>				
<b>Sympathomimetic Amine/Antiepileptic Combination</b>				
<b>Qsymia</b>	phentermine/ topiramate ER	7.5/46mg ER cap	\$ 6.66	\$199.70/30
		15/92mg ER cap	\$ 7.12	\$213.63/30
4.1-10.7 kg mean weight loss/45-70% patients with weight loss $\geq 5\%$ <sup>1</sup>				

## Opioid Antagonist/Antidepressant Combination

<b>Contrave</b>	naltrexone/bupropion	8/90mg ER tab	\$ 4.41	\$264.86/60
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3.7-5.2 kg mean weight loss/39-66% patients with weight loss  $\geq 5\%$ <sup>1</sup>

## Glucagon-Like Peptide-1 (GLP-1) Receptor Agonist

<b>Saxenda</b>	liraglutide SubQ	18mg/3mL pen	\$ 278.27	\$1,391.34/5
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### Titration Schedule

Weeks	Dose
1	0.6mg
2	1.2mg
3	1.8mg
4	2.4mg
5 and Onward	3mg

3.7-5.8 kg mean weight loss/44-62% patients with weight loss  $\geq 5\%$ <sup>1</sup>

<b>Wegovy</b>	semaglutide SubQ
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### Titration Schedule

Weeks	Total Strength per Total Volume	Dose per Pen	Carton Contents	Cost/Pen	Cost
Weeks 1-4	0.25 mg/0.5 mL	1 dose of 0.25 mg	4 pens	<b>\$ 347.84</b>	<b>\$1,391.34/4</b>
Weeks 5-8	0.5 mg/0.5 mL	1 dose of 0.5 mg	4 pens		
Weeks 9-12	1 mg/0.5 mL	1 dose of 1 mg	4 pens		
Weeks 13-16	1.7 mg/0.75 mL	1 dose of 1.7 mg	4 pens		
Weeks 17-20	2.4 mg/0.75 mL	1 dose of 2.4 mg	4 pens		

Usual dose is 2.4mg once/wk.

## Melanocortin Receptor Agonist

<b>Imcivree</b>	setmelanotide SubQ	10mg/mL vial	-	\$3,393.05/vial
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### Titration Schedule - Adults and Children 12 years and older

Weeks 1-2	2 mg (0.2 mL) daily
Weeks 3 and Onward	3 mg (0.3 mL) daily

### Titration Schedule - Children 6 years to <12 years

Weeks 1-2	1 mg (0.1mL) daily
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Weeks 3 and Onward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the 1 mg dose is tolerated, increase the dose to 2 mg (0.2 mL) once daily.</li> <li>If the 2 mg once daily dose is not tolerated, reduce to 1 mg (0.1 mL) once daily.</li> <li>If the 2 mg once daily dose is tolerated and additional weight loss is desired, the dose may be increased to 3 mg (0.3 mL) once daily.</li> </ul>
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Only for patients with the following rare genetic diseases, confirmed by genetic testing: proopiomelanocortin (POMC) deficiency, proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin type 1 (PCSK1) deficiency, and leptin receptor (LEPR) deficiency

## Oral Hydrogel Device

<b>Plenity</b>	2.25g/3 cap	\$ 3.50	\$98.00/28 days
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FDA cleared to use

Used as adjunct to diet and exercise in adults with BMI of 24-40 kg/m<sup>2</sup><sup>3</sup>

Taken twice daily, 20-30 minutes before lunch and dinner with at least 16 ounces of water<sup>3</sup>

Items in green are available as generics. Medications in red are available as brands only.

Sources: \*GoodRx (GRx) accessed 12/1/22

[www.goodrx.com](http://www.goodrx.com) is a source of cash prices and includes coupons for generics, links to manufacturer brand assistance programs and other sources of prescription drug assistance. Prices listed are available through App or with coupon – price subject to change and is pharmacy specific.

- Sources
- 1) Diet, Drugs, Devices, and Surgery for Weight Management. *Med Lett Drugs Ther.* 2018 Jun 4;60(1548):91-8
  - 2) Semaglutide (Ozempic) for Weight Loss. *Med Lett Drugs Ther.* 2021 Apr 5;63(1621):53-4
  - 3) Plenity for Weight Management. *Med Lett Drugs Ther.* 2021 May 17;63(1624):77-8