

Addendum to the Protocol for Glucagon-Like Peptide-1 Receptor Agonists for Type 2 Diabetes

Approved January 2023

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Addendum: Exclude patients with established atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) from trial of metformin prior to treatment with GLP-1 receptor agonists

Formulary with Step Therapy: Ozempic and liraglutide

- If the patient has filled at least 60 days of metformin within the past 180 days under the Aetna Better Health prescription benefit and has a diagnosis of Type 2 Diabetes, then the requested drug will be paid under that prescription benefit.
- If the patient does not meet the initial step therapy criteria, then the claim will reject with a message indicating that a prior authorization (PA) is required. The prior authorization criteria would then be applied to requests submitted for evaluation to the PA unit.

Non-Formulary Agents:

Adlyxin (lixisenatide)

Bydureon, Bydureon Bcise (exenatide Microspheres)

Byetta (exenatide)

Mounjaro (tirzepatide)

Rybelsus (semaglutide)

Soliqua (insulin glargine/lixisenatide)

Trulicity (dulaglutide)

Xultophy (insulin degludec/liraglutide)

Background:

The GLP-1RAs have been shown to significantly improve glycemic parameters and reduce body weight. These agents work by activating GLP-1 receptors in the pancreas, which leads to enhanced insulin release and reduced glucagon release-responses that are both glucose-dependent-with a consequent low risk for hypoglycemia.

Criteria for approval:

1. Diagnosis of type 2 diabetes mellitus; **AND**
2. The patient is unable to take the required number of formulary alternatives (2) for the given diagnosis due to a trial and inadequate treatment response or intolerance, or a contraindication. Documentation is required for approval
3. Patient meets the age limit for requested product when appropriate; **AND**
4. Has atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) or heart failure, irrespective of metformin use; **OR**

5. Patient has/had suboptimal response to metformin therapy (for at least 3 months) or cannot use metformin for one of the following reasons:
 - a. Has a diagnosis of Crohn's disease, irritable bowel syndrome, or Ulcerative Colitis
 - b. Has severe renal impairment (eGFR below 45ml/min/1.73m²)
 - c. Intolerance to metformin therapy
 - d. Contraindication to metformin therapy
6. Will not be used concurrently with other GLP-1 (glucagon-like peptide-1) agonists
7. Documentation of HbA1C ≥ 7 measured within the past 6 months; **AND**
8. Medication is prescribed in accordance with Food and Drug Administration (FDA) established indication and dosing regimens or in accordance with medically appropriate off-label indication and dosing according to American Hospital Formulary Service, Micromedex, Clinical Pharmacology, Wolters Kluwer Lexi-Drugs (Lexicomp), national guidelines, or other peer-reviewed evidence

Initial Approval: 6 months

Continuation of therapy:

1. Patient has no contraindication for treatment
2. Medication is prescribed in accordance with Food and Drug Administration (FDA) established indication and dosing regimens or in accordance with medically appropriate off-label indication and dosing according to American Hospital Formulary Service, Micromedex, Clinical Pharmacology, Wolters Kluwer Lexi-Drugs (Lexicomp), national guidelines, or other peer-reviewed evidence

Renewal Approval: 12 months

NOTE: There is a BOXED WARNING RISK OF THYROID C-CELL TUMORS. GLP-1 analogues are associated with thyroid cancer in patients with diabetes.

References:

1. Adlyxin [package insert]. Sanofi-Aventis U.S. LLC; Bridgewater, NJ: July 2021.
2. Bydureon BCise [package insert]. AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP; Wilmington, DE: July 2021
3. Byetta [package insert]. AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP; Wilmington, DE: June 2021.
4. Mounjaro [package insert]. Lilly USA, LLC, Indianapolis, IN: May 2022.
5. Ozempic [package insert]. Novo Nordisk Inc.; Plainsboro, NJ: April 2021.
6. Rybelsus [package insert]. Novo Nordisk Inc.; Plainsboro, NJ: July 2021.
7. Soliqua [package insert]. Sanofi-Aventis U.S. LLC; Bridgewater, NJ: November 2016
8. Trulicity [package insert]. Eli Lilly and Company; Indianapolis, IN: April 2021.
9. Victoza [package insert]. Novo Nordisk Inc.; Plainsboro, NJ: November 2020.
10. Clinical Pharmacology® Gold Standard Series [Internet database]. Tampa FL. Elsevier 2016. Updated periodically

11. American Diabetes Association. Standard of Medical Care in Diabetes - 2021. Diabetes Care 2021;44 (Supplement 1).
12. ElSayed NA, Aleppo G, et al. Cardiovascular Disease and Risk Management: Standards of Care in Diabetes – 2023. Diabetes Care 2023;46(Suppl. 1):S158–S190