# PHYSICIANS PREFERENCE

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## NOVEL FORMULA FOR WEIGHT MANAGEMENT

By now everyone has heard about semaglutide. Patients are asking for it and, due to its popularity, the commercially available product has been on backorder for months. Semaglutide is the active ingredient in Ozempic, Wegovy, and Rybelsus. While these medications share a strong correlation with weight loss, many patients experience side effects with the injectable formulations. This is why our semaglutide formulation is compounded as a sublingual tablet, to avoid those side effects while retaining efficacy. At Physicians Preference Pharmacy, we specialize in the sublingual route of administration, with over 10 years of experience refining this dosage form.

#### What Does Semaglutide Do?

Semaglutide is a glucagon-like peptide 1 (GLP-1) receptor agonist that helps to reduce appetite and food cravings, improve insulin and glucose levels, and delay gastric emptying. It is intended to be used in adults as an adjunct to a balanced dietary regimen and regular physical activity. Semaglutide stimulates insulin secretion, reduces glucagon secretion, and slows gastric emptying, all of which help to lower blood glucose levels.<sup>1</sup> It may also help to reduce the risk of major adverse cardiovascular events in adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus and established cardiovascular disease.

## HOW TO ORDER

Call or fax your prescriptions:

🖶 Fax 281.828.9669

Tel 281.828.9088

### NEED SUPPLIES?

For Rx sheets, product catalogs, and supportive materials, please call or email us:

281.828.9088

pharmacy@ physicianspreferencerx.com

hysicianspreferencerx.com

## TAKE A **VIRTUAL TOUR**

 <u>An inside look at our new</u> <u>compounding labs</u>

PHARMACY COMPOUNDING ACCREDITATION BOARD

#### ACCREDITED

Physicians Preference Pharmacy is a Houston-based, PCAB-accredited compounding pharmacy serving physicians and patients since 2001. We are licensed to work with and ship to doctors and patients in 48 states (excludes NV, AL). Our standards are more stringent than those of the United States Pharmacopeia (USP). Physicians Preference Pharmacy ranks first in Houston for the number of samples sent for potency testing and in the top 8% of pharmacies nationwide.

#### How Does It Work?

Unlike other products used for weight loss, such as phentermine or Contrave, semaglutide addresses the underlying physiology of weight gain, rather than tricking the body into not being hungry. Addressing the physiological processes of weight gain and metabolic syndrome allows patients to shed weight and keep it off when accompanied with an appropriate nutrition and activity regimen.

## Fewer Side Effects With Sublingual Dosing

If you have already been prescribing semaglutide, then you know the side effects of injectable semaglutide can be rough on your patients. Some common side effects of injectable semaglutide products such as Ozempic and Wegovy include nausea, vomiting, headaches, diarrhea, gastroparesis, and pancreatitis. This is why we have formulated semaglutide differently, so that you can provide your patients with a non-injectable option. Additionally, we have added methylcobalamin to our sublingual semaglutide formulation to reduce such side effects and provide methylated vitamin B12 support.

Compounded sublingual semaglutide is dosed once daily on an empty stomach, as a rapidly dissolving tablet under the tongue. As a sublingual formulation, semaglutide is designed to be titrated up over the course of one week or more. The patient then continues, on physician's orders, to maintain treatment at that dose until wellness, blood sugar, and weight loss goals are achieved.

As a sublingual dosage form, our semaglutide formulation does not bear the same side effect profile as oral or injectable dosage forms, as it bypasses first-pass metabolism and avoids injection. Once-daily dosing of sublingual semaglutide levels out the potential spikes following injectable dosing and helps to minimize the potential for negative side effects. Daily dosing ensures compliance with the regimen, creating a habit of incorporating semaglutide into patients' daily routine.

With a 6-month expiration date, our compounded sublingual semaglutide formulation is travel-friendly, easy to store, free of any unnecessary dyes, binders or fillers, and does not require refrigeration. Medications administered via sublingual administration prove to have better absorption than oral administration, therefore allowing for lower doses to be administered. With lower doses comes a lower incidence and severity of side effects. Daily dosing versus a weekly loading dose avoids injections and promotes consistency, all with a reduced incidence of side effects.

#### **Cost Considerations**

An additional obstacle to prescribing semaglutide is likely to be cost for the patient. Although as compounders we cannot compound a product to improve cost alone, a lower cost of treatment is always an added benefit for patient compliance and for their pocketbooks.

Patients commonly pay thousands of dollars per month

for commercially available semaglutide treatment. Even if insurance covers semaglutide treatment initially, we have heard from several patients that their insurance is spontaneously ceasing coverage, leaving them in a bind. Particularly for patients with type 2 diabetes who are utilizing semaglutide to lower blood sugar, this abrupt discontinuation in coverage is both cost-prohibitive and a barrier to treatment.

For additional prescribing information and pricing on Phys Pref Semaglutide, please contact the pharmacy directly at **281-828-9088**.

We look forward to the privilege of serving you!

#### **PRESCRIPTION EXAMPLE:**



#### Semaglutide 0.5mg/ Methylcobalamin 0.5mg sublingual tablet

Directions: Place one half tablet under the tongue once daily for 7 days, then increase to one tablet under the tongue once daily.

#30 tablets + 3 Refills

SIGNATURE