

Tirzepatide Injection (16.6mg/mL)

FDA-approved in March 2022 as an adjunct to diet and exercise to improve glycemic control in adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus, Tirzepatide injection is a glucose-dependent insulinotropic polypeptide (GIP) receptor and glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor agonist.

In comparative head-to-head trials, Tirzepatide surpassed Semaglutide's HbA1c reduction by an additional 24%. According to data from Phase III trial results in type 2 diabetic patients, Tirzepatide was non-inferior and was superior to Semaglutide with respect to the mean change in HbA1c from baseline to 40 weeks.

At all doses, Tirzepatide (5mg, 10mg, 15mg) also outperformed Semaglutide (1mg) in body weight reduction after 40-weeks. At 5mg, up to 80% of users achieved at least a 5% (15lb) reduction in body weight; at 10mg, 45% reached a 10% (20lb) reduction; and at 15mg, up to 36% of users achieved at least a 15% (25lb) reduction in body weight compared to Semaglutide users' 54%, 24%, and 8%, respectively.

Weight loss from baseline to after 40 treatment weeks revealed that Tirzepatide (5mg, 10mg, 15mg) offered at least 30%, 60%, and up to 95% greater weight loss, respectively vs. Semaglutide 1mg.



Impact of Tirzepatide

As a GIP and GLP-1 receptor agonist, Tirzepatide is a 39-amino-acid modified peptide with a C20 fatty diacid moiety that enables albumin binding and prolongs the half-life.

Tirzepatide selectively binds to and activates the GIP and GLP-1 receptors, the targets for native GIP and GLP-1.

At therapeutic doses, it acts on the brain and suppresses appetite. Used in conjunction with a healthy diet and exercise, Tirzepatide helps patients adhere to a reduced-calorie diet, enhancing the weight loss process.

Injection Dosage and Titration Schedule

- **Month 1:** 2.5mg (0.15mL SQ) once weekly
- **Month 2:** 5mg (0.30mL SQ) once weekly
- **Month 3:** 7.5mg (0.45mL SQ) once weekly
- **Month 4:** 10mg (0.60mL SQ) once weekly
- **Month 5:** 12.5mg (0.75mL SQ) once weekly
- **Month 6:** 15mg (0.90mL SQ) once weekly (max dose)

- Injectable Tirzepatide can be administered with or without food.
- If you need to change the day of the week, ensure the previous dose was given 3 or more days before.

Potential Side Effects

The most common side effects include nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, constipation, stomach pain, headache, fatigue, dizziness, bloating, gas, and heartburn. More serious side effects may include:

- Pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas)
- Gallbladder problems
- Kidney problems/failure
- Serious allergic reactions
- Increased heart rate
- Depression

Reference:

Frias JP, et al. N Engl J Med. 2021; 385(6): 503-515.
Jastreboff AM, et al. N Engl J Med. 2022; 387(3): 205-216.
Vadher K, et al. Diabetes Obes Metab. 2022; 24(9): 1861-1868.

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