

Views on Medications for Weight Management

December 2023/January 2024

www.healthyagingpoll.org



Q1. Which, if any, of the following prescription medications used for weight management have you heard about?

Select all that apply.

1. Wegovy (generic name is semaglutide)
2. Ozempic (generic name is semaglutide)
3. Saxenda (generic name is liraglutide)
4. Qsymia (generic name is phentermine-topiramate)
5. Contrave (generic name is bupropion-naltrexone)
6. Phentermine
7. Never heard of any of these medications

If Q1 = any 1–6 are checked

Q2. Have you ever taken any of the following prescription medications used for weight management?

Note rows were populated with responses from Q1.

Select all that apply.

1. Wegovy (generic name is semaglutide)
2. Ozempic (generic name is semaglutide)
3. Saxenda (generic name is liraglutide)

4. Qsymia (generic name is phentermine-topiramate)
5. Contrave (generic name is bupropion-naltrexone)
6. Phentermine
7. None of the above

If Q1 = any 1–6 are checked

Q3. Where did you hear about these prescription medications used for weight management?

Select all that apply.

1. The news (e.g., TV, magazines, newspapers)
2. Social media (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)
3. Advertisement on TV, internet, or radio
4. Online search
5. From friends or family
6. My health care provider recommended one or more of these medications for me
7. Other



Q4. Have you ever done any of the following to lose weight?

	Yes, on my own	Yes, with a health care provider's recommendation	No
Changed your diet (e.g., reduced food intake or used a special food program)			
Engaged in physical activity/exercise			
Worked with a registered dietician or nutritionist			
Worked with a personal trainer			
Used an app or online program to track diet, exercise, and behavior change			
Taken supplements or other over-the-counter medication			
Had bariatric surgery			

Q5. Do you think health insurance should cover the following treatments for overweight and obesity?

	Yes	No
Prescription medication which has been FDA approved for weight loss		
Weight loss surgery such as gastric sleeve, gastric band, or gastric bypass surgery		
Sessions with a registered dietician or nutritionist		
Sessions with a personal trainer		
Membership to a gym or fitness facility		
Apps or online programs to track diet, exercise, and/or behavior change		

Q6. Would you favor or oppose the following regarding FDA-approved prescription medication for weight management?

	Favor	Oppose
Require Medicare to cover these medications		
Pay more for your Medicare premium to have these medications covered, even if you do not use these medications yourself		



Q7. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
I would be interested in taking prescription medications for weight management.				

Q8. Have you ever been overweight?

1. Yes
2. No

Q9. Currently, I am...

1. Underweight
2. About the right weight
3. Slightly overweight
4. Overweight

Data Source and Methods

This National Poll on Healthy Aging report presents findings from a nationally representative household survey conducted exclusively by NORC at the University of Chicago for the University of Michigan’s Institute for Healthcare Policy and Innovation. National Poll on Healthy Aging surveys are conducted using NORC’s AmeriSpeak probability-based panel. This survey module was administered online and via phone from July 17th – August 7th, 2023 to a randomly selected, stratified group of U.S. adults age 50–80 (n=2,657). The sample was subsequently weighted to reflect population figures from the U.S. Census Bureau. The completion rate was 50% among panel members contacted to participate. The margin of error is ±1 to 5 percentage points for questions asked of the full sample and higher among subgroups.

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