

Provider Notice

October 1, 2026

Expanded Coverage of Wegovy and Zepbound for Certain FDA-Approved Indications

Effective October 1, 2026, CountyCare is expanding coverage for Wegovy (semaglutide) and Zepbound (tirzepatide). This change is consistent with updated coverage requirements from the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS).

CountyCare will provide coverage for Wegovy and Zepbound only when prescribed for the qualifying FDA-approved indications outlined in the table below. Additional prior authorization (PA) requirements and important coverage clarifications is also included below.

Medication	Formulation	Coverage/Indication	Additional Requirements / Information
Wegovy (semaglutide)	Injection	Reduction of the risk of major adverse cardiovascular events (MACE), including cardiovascular death, non-fatal myocardial infarction, or non-fatal stroke, in adults with established cardiovascular disease (as defined in the next column) and either obese or overweight.	Established cardiovascular disease includes prior MI, prior stroke, symptomatic PAD or a prior history of coronary revascularization, including CABG, PCI or angioplasty. Providers will be required to submit clinical documentation supporting the qualifying cardiovascular history as part of the PA request.
Wegovy (semaglutide)	Injection	Treatment of noncirrhotic metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis (MASH) with moderate to advanced liver fibrosis consistent with stages F2 to F3 in adults.	Clinical documentation supporting the indication should be submitted with the PA request, as applicable.
Wegovy (semaglutide)	Tablets	Reduction of the risk of major adverse cardiovascular events (MACE), including cardiovascular death, non-fatal myocardial infarction, or non-fatal stroke, in adults with established cardiovascular disease (as defined in the next column) and either obese or overweight.	Established cardiovascular disease includes prior MI, prior stroke, symptomatic PAD or a prior history of coronary revascularization, including CABG, PCI or angioplasty. Providers will be required to submit clinical documentation supporting the qualifying cardiovascular history as part of the PA request.
Zepbound (tirzepatide)	Injection	Treatment of moderate to severe obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) in adults with obesity.	Clinical documentation supporting the indication should be submitted with the PA request, as applicable



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Prior Authorization Requirements

Wegovy and Zepbound will require PA for the newly covered indications.

Providers should be prepared to submit documentation supporting the applicable FDA-approved indication to demonstrate that the member meets CountyCare's clinical coverage criteria.

Finalized CountyCare PA criteria will be available upon request soon and will provide additional details regarding applicable clinical criteria and documentation requirements.

Important Coverage Clarifications

Weight Loss

Wegovy and Zepbound will not be covered when prescribed solely for weight loss. Coverage is limited to members who meet the applicable criteria for one of the qualifying indications outlined in this notice.

Type 2 Diabetes

This coverage expansion does not add Wegovy or Zepbound to the formulary for the treatment of type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM).

Members being treated for T2DM should continue to follow the existing [CountyCare formulary](#) and [prior authorization requirements](#) for GLP-1 medications indicated for the treatment of T2DM.

Implementation Note

Although this coverage change is effective October 1, 2026, CountyCare is working to operationalize the updated coverage requirements as quickly as possible. We appreciate providers' patience during this transition and will provide additional information as it becomes available.

Contact Us

Thank you for working with us to ensure that CountyCare members receive quality care at the right time and in the right setting. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact CountyCare Provider Services at countycareproviderservices@cookcountyhhs.org or your assigned Provider Relations representative. You can also reach CountyCare Provider Services by phone at 312-864-8200.