

Document control	
Title	Position statement: Glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) analogues: Semaglutide (Wegovy®) and Liraglutide (Saxenda®) for managing overweight and obesity – September 2024 update
Version	1.2
Approved by	North East London Formulary and Pathways Group (FPG)
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Position statement: Glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) analogues: Semaglutide (Wegovy®) and Liraglutide (Saxenda®) for managing overweight and obesity

Proposed Statement for Referrers:

There have been two positive NICE TAs which recommend the use of a GLP-1 analogue for managing overweight and obesity.

1. NICE TA664 relating to Liraglutide (Saxenda®) was published in December 2020: <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/TA664>
2. NICE TA875 relating to Semaglutide (Wegovy®) was published on 8th March 2023 and widely publicised: <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/TA875>

The current agreement set out by NICE, which is endorsed locally, is that either GLP-1 analogue can **only be prescribed by a specialist weight management (Tier 3) service and within set criteria**. Currently, there is no commissioned Tier 3 service that can prescribe these medications and therefore they cannot be prescribed across North East London.

Commissioning for a NEL Tier 3 service is under consideration with a business case under review during 2024/25. However, due to financial constraints across the system, it is not known when the NEL Tier 3 service will be commissioned. GPs can consider offering referrals to the following:

- Dietician
- Health coach
- Social prescriber
- Tier 2 weight management
- Barts Health NHS Trust Obesity Service (after Tier 2)
- Homerton University Hospital Obesity Surgery (Bariatrics)

If a NEL Tier 3 pilot service becomes available, full details around medication availability within this service will be confirmed. Therefore, please do not refer your patients for treatment with Wegovy® or Saxenda® within NEL. This is to avoid confusion and frustration to patients. Communication will follow when this medication is available.

Proposed Statement for Patients, Semaglutide (Wegovy®):

Thank you for your interest in the weight loss injection Semaglutide (Wegovy).

This medicine can only be prescribed by a specialist weight management service which is not currently available in North East London. Therefore, this medication is currently not able to be prescribed across North East London.

Please discuss with your GP Practice what options are available to you. This could include referring you to a dietician, health coach, social prescriber or a community weight management service or a combination of these services depending on your needs.

Proposed Statement for Patients, Liraglutide (Saxenda®):

Thank you for your interest in the weight loss injection Liraglutide (Saxenda).

This medicine can only be prescribed by a specialist weight management service which is not currently available in North East London. Therefore, this medication is currently not able to be prescribed across North East London.

Please discuss with your GP Practice what options are available to you. This could include referring you to a dietician, health coach, social prescriber or a community weight management service or a combination of these services depending on your needs.