



# RaRx

PHARMACY X

PATIENT  
MEDICATION  
GUIDE:

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**INJECTABLE  
SEMAGLUTIDE**



## HOW DOES SEMAGLUTIDE WORK?

- > **Lowers blood sugar**
- > **Suppresses the appetite**
- > **Promotes the sensation of “feeling full”**

Semaglutide binds to the GLP-1 receptor which stimulates insulin release and lowers glucagon. These actions lower blood glucose levels. Semaglutide may also delay stomach emptying. This suppresses the appetite and promotes the sensation of “feeling full” longer.

Typically, patients notice a decrease in their appetite within 5-10 days of starting therapy. However, it may take as long as 4 to 5 weeks to reach the max effect. Contact your doctor if you have concerns regarding how well the medication is working. Your dose can be adjusted during therapy.

## WHAT ARE THE COMMON SIDE EFFECTS OF SEMAGLUTIDE ?

- > **Abdominal discomfort**
- > **Heartburn**
- > **Constipation**
- > **Diarrhea**
- > **Nausea**
- > **Loss of appetite**
- > **Light-headed or dizzy**
- > **Low blood sugar**

Side effects are more common when starting treatment and tend to become less prominent over time. Contact your doctor if you have questions or concerns regarding side effects.

Seek immediate medical attention if you experience:

- > **Unusual swelling**
- > **Severe abdominal pain**
- > **Difficulty breathing**
- > **Signs of an allergic reaction**


Not all of the potential side effects are listed in this medication guide.

## SEMAGLUTIDE INJECTION (2.5mg/mL)

Your Semaglutide is a compounded product that is prepared to be given as a weekly subcutaneous injection. Semaglutide works by slowing the movement of food through the GI system, leading to a decreased appetite. It is commonly used in addition to a diet and exercise regimen to help individuals with diabetes control blood sugar or to promote weight loss in select individuals.

## WHAT IS A COMPOUND?

Compounds are pharmacist-prepared, custom medications designed to meet the unique needs of patients. Healthcare professionals often choose to prescribe compounded medications when mass-produced, commercially manufactured products don't fit a patient's individual needs. Our pharmacy is regulated by State Boards of Pharmacy and strictly adheres to USP standards (United States Pharmacopeia). All the ingredients used in our compounds only come from FDA registered facilities.



# HOW DO I TAKE THIS MEDICATION?

This medication is given as a subcutaneous injection which means it is injected directly underneath the skin. Possible injection sites include either side of the stomach (at least 2 inches from the belly button), back of the arm, or thigh. We recommend alternating injection sites with each injection to prevent any tenderness or bruising to the area.

## 1. Assemble supplies

Your Semaglutide will come with a bag of supplies that you will use to administer your medication. For each dose you will need your vial of Semaglutide, an alcohol swab, and a provided syringe.

## 2. Wash hands and prepare Injection Site

Clean the injection site with an alcohol swab and let the area completely dry before injecting.

## 3. Draw up the medication.

Remove the seal on the top of the vial and wipe the top of the vial with an alcohol swab.

Remove the orange cap from the needle.

Hold the syringe like you hold a dart, inserting the needle into the middle of the rubber stopper. Insert the needle perpendicular to prevent bending the needle.

Together, turn the vial and syringe upside down. Look through the vial to make sure that the tip of the needle is in the liquid.

Pull the plunger of the syringe down past the prescribed dosage. Then, push the plunger up to the prescribed dosage. This will remove any air bubble in the syringe to ensure that the full dose is administered.

Carefully pull the syringe out of the vial without moving the plunger.

## 4. Give the Injection

Pinch the injection site to create a firm surface. Insert the needle into the pinch of skin at a 90-degree angle. Slowly push the plunger down until it reaches the bottom, and the full dose is given. Gently pull the syringe out of the skin. Discard the needle in a sharps container.

## FAQS

### (FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS)

#### What if I miss a dose?

Injectable Semaglutide is dosed once weekly, at any time of day, with or without meals. We recommend administering the dose on the same day each week to ensure a full week has lapsed between doses. If a dose is missed, then administer within 5 days of the missed dose. If more than 5 days have passed, skip the missed dose and administer the next dose on the regularly scheduled day.


#### How is the medication stored?

Store the vial of Semaglutide in a refrigerator between 36°F to 46°F (2°C to 8°C). Remove vial from refrigerator and set at room temperature approximately 30 minutes prior to injecting. After injection is given, return vial to refrigerator until next dose. Do not freeze semaglutide and do not use it if the medication has been frozen. Keep the vial protected from excessive light.

#### Who should not take this medication?

Semaglutide is currently only recommended for patients between 18 and 75 years of age. Semaglutide should not be taken if you are pregnant or breastfeeding. Stop taking Semaglutide at least 2 months before a planned pregnancy.

Consult with your doctor prior to starting Semaglutide injections to discuss allergies, age, pregnancy, drug interactions, and medical history that may interfere with treatment.

 **If you have any of the following conditions, please talk to your doctor prior to starting this medication: a personal or family history of medullary thyroid carcinoma (MTC), history of multiple endocrine neoplasia syndrome type 2 (MEN2).**



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**Please contact our pharmacy or your  
doctor for any additional information,  
questions, or concerns.**