

# Executive Officer Notice: Update to Ozempic Listing – Change in Status to Limited Use Benefit

**January 26, 2024**

Effective January 31, 2024, Ozempic injectables are listed as Limited Use (LU) benefits on the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) formulary. The LU criteria for Ozempic are consistent with the previous therapeutic notes and with the Health Canada-approved indication, and are as follows for each of the three Ozempic products that will be listed with LU 665, 666, 667:

- For the treatment of adult patients with type 2 diabetes when adequate glycemic control is not achieved on the maximum tolerated dose of metformin or where metformin is contraindicated or inappropriate.
- Semaglutide is not funded in combination with another glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonist (GLP-1 RA) or dipeptidyl peptidase-4 (DPP-4) inhibitor.
- Injectable semaglutide is not funded in combination with oral semaglutide. Coverage is only provided for one dosage format.

Reimbursed dose: As per the product monograph

LU Authorization Period: indefinite

As of January 31, 2024, ODB-eligible patients requesting funding of Ozempic under the ODB program must meet the LU criteria for funding. The prescriber should ensure that prescriptions include the appropriate LU code. For ODB-eligible patients currently receiving Ozempic through General Benefit, confirmation by the prescriber that the patient meets the LU criteria is required and the LU code must be documented with the prescription.

Ozempic is not funded for ODB program recipients who do not meet the LU criteria on the Formulary. Claims for payment for dispensing Ozempic for ODB program recipients who do not meet the LU requirement will be subject to recovery. Claims for payment for Ozempic must be supported by a prescription that includes the applicable Reason for Use (RFU) code, as described further in the Ontario Drug Programs Reference Manual.

Please note that for transition, Reason for use (RFU) code 279 will be activated for Ozempic to help transition patients to the new LU code and criteria. This transition code may be submitted for a claim for a period of three (3) months after the change, between January 31, 2024 and April 30, 2024. It is expected that after three (3) months, all patients with type 2 diabetes requiring funding of Ozempic under the ODB program and who meet the LU criteria, will have an updated prescription with the correct LU Code. The transition code RFU 279 will be effective for three (3) months and deactivated with the April 2024 Formulary update. The rules regarding the use of LU code 279 are set out in the Ontario Drug Programs Reference Manual.

Details of the changes to the funding of Ozempic will also be posted in the January 2024 Formulary update which can be found on the ministry's website at:

[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/drugs/edition\\_43.aspx](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/drugs/edition_43.aspx)

To further inform healthcare providers and patients, we have also included a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document for reference purposes.

Additional information:

For pharmacies:

Please call ODB Pharmacy Help Desk at: 1-800-668-6641

For all other health care providers and the public:

Please call ServiceOntario, Infoline at 1-866-532-3161 TTY 1-800-387-5559. In Toronto, TTY 416-327-4282.