NEWS BRIEF

Trump Announces Deal to Lower the Cost of GLP-1s

On Nov. 6, the Trump administration announced an agreement with pharmaceutical companies Novo Nordisk and Eli Lilly to significantly reduce the cost of popular glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) drug prices for millions of Americans, including those on Medicare. These drugs, such as Wegovy and Zepbound, are used to treat obesity, diabetes, heart disease and other conditions. The initiative is part of a broader effort under the administration's TrumpRx public-private partnership aimed at improving drug affordability and access.

The administration recently announced plans to launch the TrumpRx website in early 2026, which will serve as a direct-to-consumer platform for purchasing discounted medications.

Under the new deal, patients using TrumpRx will pay approximately $350 per month for injectable GLP-1 medications, with the price expected to drop to $245 over the next two years for those paying out-of-pocket without insurance. Additionally, daily pill versions of these drugs, pending approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, would start at $150 for initial doses.

Beginning in mid-2026, Medicare will offer coverage for injectable weight-loss medications (Ozempic, Wegovy, Mounjaro and Zepbound) at a monthly cost to Medicare of $245 for individuals who meet specific health criteria, such as severe obesity or obesity combined with conditions like kidney disease or heart failure. Medicare recipients will pay a copayment of no more than $50 per month out-of-pocket. According to the White House, state Medicaid programs will also have access to these medications at these prices.

The announcement also states that Eli Lilly and Novo Nordisk will also offer lower prices on TrumpRx for additional diabetes and insulin products, as well as migraine treatment.

The agreement is part of the Trump administration's broader "most favored nations" policy, which aims to negotiate drug prices that are comparable to those paid by other wealthy countries. This policy was formalized through an executive order signed in May 2025, directing federal agencies to pursue deals that lower drug costs for American consumers.

"As we expand access to obesity treatments for more Americans and advance one of the most innovative obesity pipelines, we remain focused on improving outcomes, strengthening the U.S. health care system, and contributing to the health of our nation for generations to come."

- David A. Ricks, Eli Lilly's chair and CEO

Employer Takeaway

TrumpRx could present a viable alternative for employees who struggle to meet the eligibility requirements of their employer-sponsored health insurance plans, especially when it comes to accessing GLP-1 medications for weight loss. As the program rolls out in 2026, it could become a valuable supplement for individuals seeking options for managing obesity and other conditions for which GLP-1s are approved.

The exact timeline for the coverage expansion and the extent of access for those who will gain coverage remain unclear. Employers should continue to monitor the situation. We'll keep you updated with any notable developments.

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