

Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire

Integrated Care Board

From Monday 23 June, patients who have a BMI of at least 40 and are living with four or more obesity-related conditions* should be able to access tirzepatide (Mounjaro ®) in a primary care setting.

The priority cohort qualifying criteria for this new weight management treatment has been set by NHS England and can be <u>viewed online</u>.

Patients who meet these criteria (see below) and have sought agreement from their clinician that the treatment is appropriate for their needs, must also be in receipt of, as well as actively participating in, additional weight management support, such as a healthy eating programme or help with exercising more.

It is important to note that although access to the treatment will become available from Monday 23 June, only those patients who are eligible will be able to begin having conversations about receiving tirzepatide.

Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care Board will be following the NHS England commissioning policy, which states that tirzepatide will initially only be offered to individuals whose weight poses a significant risk to their overall health and wellbeing.

A primary care LCS for an obesity service for 2025/26, which includes the prescribing of tirzepatide, is due to be shared with practices shortly.

Only those practices who sign up will be able to treat people included in the NHS England priority cohort during 2025/26, and part of the process will include receiving Prior Approval for the prescription.

Practices that do not sign up to the LCS will not be able to prescribe tirzepatide for obesity on the NHS. GP practices who do want to sign up to the LCS should not prescribe tirzepatide for weight loss until the new LCS is in place.

We have shared messaging with the public and have kindly asked patients not to contact their GP practice with requests for weight loss treatment at this time.

All patients, including those who may be eligible for the new drug, are still encouraged to access <u>NHS-supported healthy living initiatives</u>, such as diet support and activity groups, as part of their overall weight loss journey.

NHS England first cohort criteria:

*Patients who qualify for tirzepatide must have a BMI of more than 40 and be living with four or more weight-related conditions, such as:

- Pre-existing cardiovascular disease
- Hypertension
- Hyperlipidaemia
- Established diagnosis of obstructive sleep apnoea (sleep clinic confirmation via sleep study) and treatment indicated
- Type 2 diabetes