WEIGHT LOSS MEDICATION

Tirzepatide

The National Institute for Health and Care and Excellence (NICE) <u>has published a</u> <u>Technology Appraisal for Tirzepatide for managing overweight and obesity (TA1026).</u>

This Technology Appraisal makes Tirzepatide available for weight management, under the brand name Mounjaro. Unlike previous weight management medication, this can be prescribed in Primary Care, however it still needs the same wrap around services as Wegovy (semaglutide), so that patients are supported to make the changes needed for the medication to be most effective.

Northamptonshire ICB knows there are many patients eligible for this medication who would like to be able to access this as soon as possible.

However, this medication will be made available in phases over a number of years. We ask that you are patient with us whilst we wait for further communication from NHS England on how Mounjaro will be rolled out and establish the best way to do so to meet our county's needs.

We also ask that you do not contact your GP surgery to try and obtain Mounjaro for weight loss just yet. GP practices are incredibly busy at this time of year and the additional resource required to manage enquiries will mean they have less time to offer patient appointments.

We have also asked our GPs not to prescribe Mounjaro for weight loss at this time, while we work with clinical colleagues to develop options for the new service, including the training and education needed for these medications to be safely prescribed. We are also working with a range of experts from across Northamptonshire to develop a specialist weight management service for patients with more complex needs, which will prescribe weight management medication in future.

A series of FAQs are published on this page, which may give you more information. In the new year we will be making changes to this webpage to put all of our weight management information into one place. This will also be where any updates on weight management services will be made. We will let you know, via our social media platforms, when this is being launched.

Further information is available from <u>www.icnorthamptonshire.org.uk/tirzepatide/</u>