

SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

1. Name of the medicinal product

Sema Q 2.4 mg/0.75ml Prefilled Syringe Injection (Semaglutide 1 mg solution for injection in pre-filled syringe)

Semaglutide 1.7 mg solution for injection in pre-filled syringe

Semaglutide 2.4 mg solution for injection in pre-filled syringe

2. Qualitative and quantitative composition

Pre-filled syringe, single dose

Semaglutide 1 mg solution for injection

Each single-dose pre-filled syringe contains 1 mg semaglutide* in 0.5 mL solution.

Semaglutide 1.7 mg solution for injection

Each single-dose pre-filled syringe contains 1.7 mg semaglutide* in 0.75 mL solution.

Semaglutide 2.4 mg solution for injection

Each single-dose pre-filled syringe contains 2.4 mg semaglutide* in 0.75 mL solution.

*human glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) analogue produced in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* cells by recombinant DNA technology.

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

3. Pharmaceutical form

Solution for injection (injection)

Clear and colourless isotonic solution; pH=7.4.

4. Clinical particulars

4.1. Therapeutic indications

Adults

Semaglutide is indicated as an adjunct to a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity for weight management, including weight loss and weight maintenance, in adults with an initial Body Mass Index (BMI) of

- ≥ 30 kg/m² (obesity), or
- ≥ 27 kg/m² to < 30 kg/m² (overweight) in the presence of at least one weight-related comorbidity e.g. dysglycaemia (prediabetes or type 2 diabetes mellitus), hypertension, dyslipidaemia, obstructive sleep apnoea or cardiovascular disease.

For trial results with respect to cardiovascular risk reduction and populations studied, see section 5.1. Adolescents (≥ 12 years)

Semaglutide is indicated as an adjunct to a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity for weight management in adolescents ages 12 years and above with

- obesity* and
- body weight above 60 kg.

Treatment with Semaglutide should be discontinued and re-evaluated if adolescent patients have not reduced their BMI by at least 5% after 12 weeks on the 2.4 mg or maximum tolerated dose.

*Obesity (BMI ≥ 95 th percentile) as defined on sex- and age-specific BMI growth charts (CDC.gov) (see Table 1).

Table 1 BMI cut-off points for obesity (≥ 95 th percentile) by sex and age for paediatric patients aged 12 and older (CDC criteria)

Age (years)	BMI (kg/m ²) at 95th Percentile	
	Males	Females
12	24.2	25.2
12.5	24.7	25.7
13	25.1	26.3
13.5	25.6	26.8
14	26.0	27.2
14.5	26.4	27.7
15	26.8	28.1
15.5	27.2	28.5
16	27.5	28.9
16.5	27.9	29.3
17	28.2	29.6
17.5	28.6	30.0

4.2. Posology and method of administration

Posology

Adults

The maintenance dose of semaglutide 2.4 mg once-weekly is reached by starting with a dose of 0.25 mg. To reduce the likelihood of gastrointestinal symptoms, the dose should be escalated over a 16week period to a maintenance dose of 2.4 mg once weekly (see Table 2). In case of significant gastrointestinal symptoms, consider delaying dose escalation or lowering to the previous dose until symptoms have improved. Weekly doses higher than 2.4 mg are not recommended.

Table 2 Dose escalation schedule

Dose escalation	Weekly dose
Week 1–4	0.25 mg
Week 5–8	0.5 mg
Week 9–12	1 mg
Week 13–16	1.7 mg
Maintenance dose	2.4 mg

Adolescents

For adolescents ages 12 years and above, the same dose escalation schedule as for adults should be applied (see Table 2). The dose should be increased until 2.4 mg (maintenance dose) or maximum tolerated dose has been reached. Weekly doses higher than 2.4 mg are not recommended.

Patients with type 2 diabetes

When initiating semaglutide in patients with type 2 diabetes, consider reducing the dose of concomitantly administered insulin or insulin secretagogues (such as sulfonylureas) to reduce the risk of hypoglycaemia, see section 4.4.

Missed dose

If a dose is missed, it should be administered as soon as possible and within 5 days after the missed dose. If more than 5 days have passed, the missed dose should be skipped, and the next dose should be administered on the regularly scheduled day. In each case, patients can then resume their regular once weekly dosing schedule. If more doses are missed, reducing the starting dose for re-initiation should be considered.

Special populations

Elderly (≥65 years old)

No dose adjustment is required based on age. Therapeutic experience in patients ≥85 years of age is limited.

Patients with renal impairment

No dose adjustment is required for patients with mild or moderate renal impairment. Experience with the use of semaglutide in patients with severe renal impairment is limited. Semaglutide is not recommended for use in patients with severe renal impairment (eGFR <30 mL/min/1.73m²) including patients with end-stage renal disease (see sections 4.4, 4.8 and 5.2).

Patients with hepatic impairment

No dose adjustment is required for patients with mild or moderate hepatic impairment. Experience with the use of semaglutide in patients with severe hepatic impairment is limited. Semaglutide is not recommended for use in patients with severe hepatic impairment and should be used cautiously in patients with mild or moderate hepatic impairment (see sections 4.4 and 5.2).

Paediatric population

No dose adjustment is required for adolescents ages 12 years and above.

The safety and efficacy of semaglutide in children below 12 years of age have not been established.

Method of administration

Subcutaneous use.

Semaglutide is administered once weekly at any time of the day, with or without meals.

It is to be injected subcutaneously in the abdomen, in the thigh or in the upper arm. The injection site can be changed. It should not be administered intravenously or intramuscularly.

The day of weekly administration can be changed if necessary, as long as the time between two doses is at least 3 days (>72 hours). After selecting a new dosing day, once-weekly dosing should be continued.

Patients should be advised to read the instruction for use included in the package leaflet carefully before administering the medicinal product.

For further information before administration see section 6.6.

4.3. Contraindications

Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1.

4.4. Special warnings and precautions for use

Traceability

In order to improve the traceability of biological medicinal products, the name and the batch number of the administered product should be clearly recorded.

Dehydration

Use of GLP-1 receptor agonists may be associated with gastrointestinal adverse reactions that can cause dehydration, which in rare cases can lead to a deterioration of renal function.

Patients should be advised of the potential risk of dehydration in relation to gastrointestinal side effects and take precautions to avoid fluid depletion.

Acute pancreatitis

Acute pancreatitis has been observed with the use of GLP-1 receptor agonists (see section 4.8). Patients should be informed of the characteristic symptoms of acute pancreatitis. If pancreatitis is suspected, semaglutide should be discontinued; if confirmed, semaglutide should not be restarted. Caution should be exercised in patients with a history of pancreatitis.

In the absence of other signs and symptoms of acute pancreatitis, elevations in pancreatic enzymes alone are not predictive of acute pancreatitis.

Patients with type 2 diabetes

Semaglutide should not be used as a substitute for insulin in patients with type 2 diabetes.

Semaglutide should not be used in combination with other GLP-1 receptor agonist products. It has not been evaluated and an increased risk of adverse reactions related to overdose is considered likely.

Hypoglycaemia in patients with type 2 diabetes

Insulin and sulfonylurea are known to cause hypoglycaemia. Patients treated with semaglutide in combination with a sulfonylurea or insulin may have an increased risk of hypoglycaemia. The risk of hypoglycaemia can be lowered by reducing the dose of sulfonylurea or insulin when initiating treatment with a GLP-1 receptor agonist. The addition of Semaglutide in patients treated with insulin has not been evaluated.

Diabetic retinopathy in patients with type 2 diabetes

In patients with diabetic retinopathy treated with semaglutide, an increased risk of developing diabetic retinopathy complications has been observed (see section 4.8). Rapid improvement in glucose control has been associated with a temporary worsening of diabetic retinopathy, but other mechanisms cannot be excluded. Patients with diabetic retinopathy using semaglutide should be monitored closely and treated according to clinical guidelines. There is no experience with Semaglutide in patients with type 2 diabetes with uncontrolled or potentially unstable diabetic retinopathy. In these patients, treatment with Semaglutide is not recommended.

Populations not studied

The safety and efficacy of Semaglutide have not been investigated in patients:

- treated with other products for weight management,
- with type 1 diabetes,
- with severe renal impairment (see section 4.2),
- with severe hepatic impairment (see section 4.2),
- with congestive heart failure New York Heart Association (NYHA) class IV.

Use in these patients is not recommended.

There is limited experience with Semaglutide in patients:

- aged 85 years or more (see section 4.2),
- with mild or moderate hepatic impairment (see section 4.2),
- with inflammatory bowel disease,

– with diabetic gastroparesis.

Use with caution in these patients.

Sodium content

This medicinal product contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per dose, that is to say essentially 'sodium-free'.

4.5. Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Semaglutide delays gastric emptying and could potentially influence the absorption of concomitantly administered oral medicinal products. No clinically relevant effect on the rate of gastric emptying was observed with semaglutide 2.4 mg, probably due to a tolerance effect. Semaglutide should be used with caution in patients receiving oral medicinal products that require rapid gastrointestinal absorption.

Paracetamol

Semaglutide delays the rate of gastric emptying as assessed by paracetamol pharmacokinetics during a standardised meal test. Paracetamol AUC and C_{max} were decreased by 27% and 23%, 0-60min max respectively, following concomitant use of semaglutide 1 mg. The total paracetamol exposure (AUC_{0-∞}) was not affected. No clinically relevant effect on paracetamol was observed with semaglutide. No 5h dose adjustment of paracetamol is necessary when administered with semaglutide.

Oral contraceptives

Semaglutide is not anticipated to decrease the effectiveness of oral contraceptives. It did not change the overall exposure of ethinylestradiol and levonorgestrel to a clinically relevant degree, when an oral contraceptive combination medicinal product (0.03 mg ethinylestradiol/0.15 mg levonorgestrel) was co-administered with semaglutide. Exposure of ethinylestradiol was not affected; an increase of 20% was observed for levonorgestrel exposure at steady state. C_{max} was not affected for any of the max compounds.

Atorvastatin

Semaglutide did not change the overall exposure of atorvastatin following a single dose administration of atorvastatin (40 mg). Atorvastatin C_{max} was decreased by 38%. This was assessed not to be clinically max relevant.

Digoxin

Semaglutide did not change the overall exposure or C_{max} of digoxin following a single dose of digoxin max (0.5 mg).

Metformin

Semaglutide did not change the overall exposure or C of metformin following dosing of 500 mg max twice daily over 3.5 days.

Warfarin and other coumarin derivatives

Semaglutide did not change overall exposure or C of R- and S-warfarin following a single dose of max warfarin (25 mg), and the pharmacodynamic effects of warfarin as measured by the international normalised ratio (INR) were not affected in a clinically relevant manner. However, cases of decreased INR have been reported during concomitant use of acenocoumarol and semaglutide. Upon initiation of semaglutide treatment in patients on warfarin or other coumarin derivatives, frequent monitoring of INR is recommended.

Paediatric population

Interaction studies have only been performed in adults.

4.6. Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

Women of childbearing potential

Women of childbearing potential are recommended to use contraception when treated with semaglutide (see section 4.5).

Pregnancy

Studies in animals have shown reproductive toxicity (see section 5.3). There are limited data from the use of semaglutide in pregnant women. Therefore, semaglutide should not be used during pregnancy. If a patient wishes to become pregnant, or pregnancy occurs, semaglutide should be discontinued. Semaglutide should be discontinued at least 2 months before a planned pregnancy due to the long half-life (see section 5.2).

Breastfeeding

In lactating rats, semaglutide was excreted in milk. A risk to a breast-fed child cannot be excluded. Semaglutide should not be used during breast-feeding.

Fertility

The effect of semaglutide on fertility in humans is unknown. Semaglutide did not affect male fertility in rats. In female rats, an increase in oestrous length and a small reduction in number of ovulations were observed at doses associated with maternal body weight loss.

4.7. Effects on ability to drive and use machines

Semaglutide has no or negligible influence on the ability to drive or use machines. However, dizziness can be experienced mainly during the dose escalation period. Driving or use of machines should be done cautiously if dizziness occurs.

Patients with type 2 diabetes

If semaglutide is used in combination with a sulfonylurea or insulin, patients should be advised to take precautions to avoid hypoglycaemia while driving and using machines (see section 4.4).

4.8. Undesirable effects

Summary of safety profile

In four phase 3a trials, 2,650 adult patients were exposed to semaglutide 2.4 mg. The duration of the trials was 68 weeks. Similar to other GLP-1 receptor agonists, the most frequently reported adverse reactions were gastrointestinal disorders including nausea, diarrhoea, constipation and vomiting.

Tabulated list of adverse reactions

Table 3 lists adverse reactions identified in phase 3a clinical trials in adults and post-marketing reports. The frequencies are based on a pool of the phase 3a trials.

Adverse reactions associated with Semaglutide are listed by system organ class and frequency. Frequency categories are defined as: Very common ($\geq 1/10$); common ($\geq 1/100$ to $< 1/10$); uncommon ($\geq 1/1\ 000$ to $< 1/100$); rare ($\geq 1/10\ 000$ to $< 1/1\ 000$); very rare ($< 1/10\ 000$) and not known (cannot be estimated from the available data).

Table 3 Frequency of adverse reactions of semaglutide

MedDRA system organ class	Very common	Common	Uncommon	Rare	Not known
Immune system disorders				Anaphylactic reaction	
Metabolism and nutrition disorders		Hypoglycaemia in patients with type 2 diabetes ^a			
Nervous system disorders	Headache ^b	Dizziness ^b Dysgeusia ^{b,c}			
Eye disorders		Diabetic retinopathy in patients with type 2 diabetes ^a			
Cardiac disorders			Hypotension Orthostatic hypotension Increased heart rate ^{a,c}		
Gastrointestinal disorders	Vomiting ^{a,b} Diarrhoea ^{a,b} Constipation ^{a,b} Nausea ^{a,b} Abdominal pain ^{b,c}	Gastritis ^{b,c} Gastroesophageal reflux disease ^b Dyspepsia ^b Eructation ^b Flatulence ^b Abdominal distension ^b	Acute pancreatitis ^a Delayed gastric emptying		Intestinal obstruction ^d
Hepatobiliary disorders		Cholelithiasis ^a			
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders		Hair loss ^a		Angioedema	
General disorders and administration site conditions	Fatigue ^{b,c}	Injection site reactions ^c			
Investigations			Increased amylase ^c Increased lipase ^c		

^{a)} see description of selected adverse reactions below

^{b)} mainly seen in the dose-escalation period

^{c)} Grouped preferred terms

^{d)} From post-marketing reports

Description of selected adverse reactions

The below information on specific adverse reactions, unless otherwise specified, pertains to the phase 3a trials.

Gastrointestinal adverse reactions

Over the 68 weeks trial period, nausea occurred in 43.9% of patients when treated with semaglutide (16.1% for placebo), diarrhoea in 29.7% (15.9% for placebo) and vomiting in 24.5% (6.3% for placebo). Most events were mild to moderate in severity and of short duration. Constipation occurred in 24.2% of patients treated with semaglutide (11.1% for placebo) and was mild to moderate in severity and of longer duration. In patients treated with semaglutide, median duration of nausea was 8 days, vomiting 2 days, diarrhoea 3 days, and constipation 47 days.

Patients with moderate renal impairment (eGFR $\geq$ 30 mL/min/1.73m²) may experience more gastrointestinal effects when treated with semaglutide.

The gastrointestinal events led to permanent treatment discontinuation in 4.3% of patients.

Acute pancreatitis

The frequency of adjudication-confirmed acute pancreatitis reported in phase 3a clinical trials was 0.2% for semaglutide and <0.1% for placebo, respectively. In SELECT, the cardiovascular outcomes trial, the frequency of acute pancreatitis confirmed by adjudication was 0.2% for semaglutide and 0.3% for placebo.

Acute gallstone disease/Cholelithiasis

Cholelithiasis was reported in 1.6% and led to cholecystitis in 0.6% of patients treated with semaglutide. Cholelithiasis and cholecystitis was reported in 1.1% and 0.3%, respectively, of patients treated with placebo.

Hair loss

Hair loss was reported in 2.5% of patients treated with semaglutide and in 1.0% of patients treated with placebo. The events were mainly of mild severity and most patients recovered while on continued treatment. Hair loss was reported more frequently in patients with a greater weight loss ($\geq$ 20%).

Increased heart rate

In the phase 3a trials, a mean increase of 3 beats per minute (bpm) from a baseline mean of 72 bpm was observed in patients treated with semaglutide. The proportions of subjects with an increase in pulse from baseline $\geq$ 10 bpm at any timepoint during the on-treatment period were 67.0% in the semaglutide group vs. 50.1% in the placebo group.

Immunogenicity

Consistent with the potentially immunogenic properties of medicinal products containing proteins or peptides, patients may develop antibodies following treatment with semaglutide. The proportion of patients testing positive for anti-semaglutide antibodies at any time post-baseline was low (2.9%) and no patients had anti-semaglutide neutralising antibodies or anti-semaglutide antibodies with endogenous GLP-1 neutralising effect at end-of-trial. During

treatment, high semaglutide concentrations might have lowered the sensitivity of the assays, hence the risk of false negatives cannot be excluded. However, in subjects testing positive for antibodies during and after treatment, the presence of antibodies was transient and with no apparent impact on efficacy and safety.

Hypoglycaemia in patients with type 2 diabetes

In STEP 2, clinically significant hypoglycaemia was observed in 6.2% (0.1 events/patient year) of subjects treated with semaglutide compared with 2.5% (0.03 events/patient year) of subjects treated with placebo. Hypoglycaemia with semaglutide was seen both with and without concomitant use of sulfonylurea. One episode (0.2% of subjects, 0.002 events/patient year) was reported as severe in a subject not concomitantly treated with a sulfonylurea. The risk of hypoglycaemia was increased when semaglutide was used with a sulfonylurea.

Diabetic retinopathy in patients with type 2 diabetes

A 2-year clinical trial investigated semaglutide 0.5 mg and 1 mg vs. placebo in 3 297 patients with type 2 diabetes, with high cardiovascular risk, long duration of diabetes and poorly controlled blood glucose. In this trial, adjudicated events of diabetic retinopathy complications occurred in more patients treated with semaglutide (3.0%) compared to placebo (1.8%). This was observed in insulin-treated patients with known diabetic retinopathy. The treatment difference appeared early and persisted throughout the trial. In STEP 2, retinal disorders were reported by 6.9% of patients treated with semaglutide, 6.2% of patients treated with semaglutide 1 mg, and 4.2% of patients treated with placebo. The majority of events were reported as diabetic retinopathy (4.0%, 2.7%, and 2.7%, respectively) and non-proliferative retinopathy (0.7%, 0%, and 0%, respectively).

Paediatric population

In a clinical trial conducted in adolescents of 12 years to below 18 years with obesity or overweight with at least one weight-related comorbidity, 133 patients were exposed to semaglutide. The trial duration was 68 weeks.

Overall, the frequency, type and severity of adverse reactions in the adolescents were comparable to that observed in the adult population. Cholelithiasis was reported in 3.8% of patients treated with Semaglutide and 0% of patients treated with placebo.

No effects on growth or pubertal development were found after 68 weeks of treatment.

In the SELECT and SUSTAIN 6 trials, in adults with established cardiovascular disease, the adverse reaction profile was similar to that seen in the weight management phase 3a trials.

Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of

the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via the national reporting system.

Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Health care professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via the <https://pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org>

4.9. Overdose

Overdose with semaglutide may be associated with gastrointestinal disorders which could lead to dehydration. In the event of overdose, the patient should be observed for clinical signs and appropriate supportive treatment initiated.

5. Pharmacological properties

5.1. Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Drugs used in diabetes, Glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) analogues, ATC code: A10BJ06.

Mechanism of action

Semaglutide is a GLP-1 analogue with 94% sequence homology to human GLP-1. Semaglutide acts as a GLP-1 receptor agonist that selectively binds to and activates the GLP-1 receptor, the target for native GLP-1.

GLP-1 is a physiological regulator of appetite and calorie intake, and the GLP-1 receptor is present in several areas of the brain involved in appetite regulation.

Animal studies show that semaglutide works in the brain through the GLP-1 receptor. Semaglutide has direct effects on areas in the brain involved in homeostatic regulation of food intake in the hypothalamus and the brainstem. Semaglutide may affect the hedonic reward system through direct and indirect effects in brain areas including the septum, thalamus and amygdala.

Clinical studies show that semaglutide reduces energy intake, increases feelings of satiety, fullness and control of eating, reduces feelings of hunger, and frequency and intensity of cravings. In addition, semaglutide reduces the preference for high fat foods.

Semaglutide orchestrates the homeostatic and hedonic contributions with executive function to regulate caloric intake, appetite, reward and food choice.

In addition, in clinical studies semaglutide have shown to reduce blood glucose in a glucose desyringedent manner by stimulating insulin secretion and lowering glucagon secretion when blood glucose is high. The mechanism of blood glucose lowering also involves a minor delay in gastric emptying in the early postprandial phase. During hypoglycaemia, semaglutide diminishes insulin secretion and does not impair glucagon secretion.

GLP-1 receptors are also expressed in the heart, vasculature, immune system and kidneys. Semaglutide has a beneficial effect on plasma lipids, lowered systolic blood pressure and reduced inflammation in clinical studies.

Furthermore, animal studies have shown that semaglutide attenuated the development of atherosclerosis and had an anti-inflammatory action in the cardiovascular system.

The mechanism of action of semaglutide for cardiovascular risk reduction is likely multifactorial, in part driven by weight loss effects and effects on known cardiovascular risk factors (reduction in blood pressure, improvements in lipid profile and glucose metabolism, and anti-inflammatory effects as demonstrated by reductions in high-sensitivity C-reactive protein (hsCRP)). The exact mechanism of cardiovascular risk reduction has not been established.

Pharmacodynamic effects Appetite, energy intake and food choice Semaglutide reduces appetite by increasing feelings of fullness and satiety, while lowering hunger and prospective food consumption. In a phase 1 trial, energy intake during an ad libitum meal was 35% lower with semaglutide compared to placebo after 20 weeks of dosing. This was supported by improved control of eating, less food cravings and a relative lower preference for high fat food. Food cravings were further assessed in STEP 5 by a Control of Eating Questionnaire (CoEQ). At week 104, the estimated treatment difference both for control of cravings and craving of savoury food significantly favoured semaglutide, whereas no clear effect was seen for craving of sweet food.

Fasting and postprandial lipids

Semaglutide 1 mg compared to placebo lowered fasting triglyceride and very low density lipoproteins (VLDL) concentrations by 12% and 21%, respectively. The postprandial triglyceride and VLDL response to a high fat meal was reduced with >40%.

Clinical efficacy and safety

The efficacy and safety of semaglutide for weight management in combination with a reduced calorie intake and increased physical activity were evaluated in four 68 weeks double-blinded randomised placebo-controlled phase 3a trials (STEP 1-4). A total of 4 684 adult patients (2 652 randomised to treatment with semaglutide) were included in these trials. Furthermore, the two-year efficacy and safety of semaglutide compared to placebo were evaluated in a double-blinded randomised placebocontrolled phase 3b trial (STEP 5) including 304 patients (152 in treatment with semaglutide).

Treatment with semaglutide demonstrated superior, clinically meaningful, and sustained weight loss compared with placebo in patients with obesity (BMI ≥ 30 kg/m²), or overweight (BMI ≥ 27 kg/m² to < 30 kg/m²) and at least one weight-related comorbidity. Furthermore, across the trials, a higher proportion of patients achieved $\geq 5\%$, $\geq 10\%$, $\geq 15\%$ and $\geq 20\%$ weight loss with semaglutide compared with placebo. The reduction in body weight occurred irrespective of the presence of gastrointestinal symptoms such as nausea, vomiting or diarrhoea.

Treatment with semaglutide also showed statistically significant improvements in waist circumference, systolic blood pressure and physical functioning compared to placebo.

Efficacy was demonstrated regardless of age, sex, race, ethnicity, baseline body weight, BMI, presence of type 2 diabetes and level of renal function. Variations in efficacy existed within all subgroups. Relatively greater weight loss was observed in women and in patients without type 2 diabetes as well as in patients with a lower versus higher baseline body weight.

STEP 1: Weight management

In a 68-week double-blind trial, 1 961 patients with obesity (BMI ≥ 30 kg/m²), or with overweight (BMI ≥ 27 kg/m² to <30 kg/m²) and at least one weight-related comorbidity were randomised to semaglutide or placebo. All patients were on a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity throughout the trial.

Weight loss occurred early and continued throughout the trial. At end of treatment (week 68), the weight loss was superior and clinically meaningful compared with placebo (see Table 4 and Figure 1). Furthermore, a higher proportion of patients achieved $\geq 5\%$, $\geq 10\%$, $\geq 15\%$ and $\geq 20\%$ weight loss with semaglutide compared with placebo (see Table 4). Among patients with prediabetes at baseline, a higher proportion of patients had a normo-glycaemic status at end of treatment with semaglutide compared to placebo (84.1% vs. 47.8%).

Table 4 STEP 1: Results at week 68

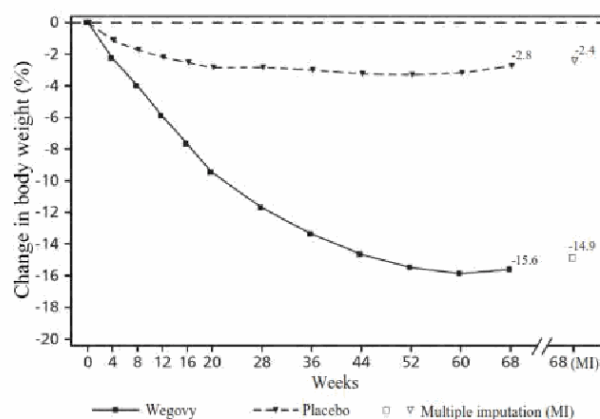
	Wegovy	Placebo
Full analysis set (N)	1 306	655
Body weight		
Baseline (kg)	105.4	105.2
Change (%) from baseline ^{1,2}	-14.9	-2.4
Difference (%) from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-12.4 [-13.4; -11.5]*	-
Change (kg) from baseline	-15.3	-2.6
Difference (kg) from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-12.7 [-13.7; -11.7]	-
Patients (%) achieving weight loss $\geq 5\%$ ³	83.5*	31.1
Patients (%) achieving weight loss $\geq 10\%$ ³	66.1*	12.0
Patients (%) achieving weight loss $\geq 15\%$ ³	47.9*	4.8
Waist circumference (cm)		
Baseline	114.6	114.8
Change from baseline ¹	-13.5	-4.1
Difference from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-9.4 [-10.3; -8.5]*	-
Systolic blood pressure (mmHg)		
Baseline	126	127
Change from baseline ¹	-6.2	-1.1
Difference from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-5.1 [-6.3; -3.9]*	-

*p<0.0001 (unadjusted 2-sided) for superiority.

¹ Estimated using an ANCOVA model using multiple imputation based on all data irrespective of discontinuation of randomised treatment or initiation of other anti-obesity medication or bariatric surgery.

² During the trial, randomised treatment was permanently discontinued by 17.1% and 22.4% of patients randomised to semaglutide 2.4 mg and placebo, respectively. Assuming that all randomised patients stayed on treatment and did not receive additional anti-obesity therapies, the estimated changes from randomisation to week 68 for body weight based on a Mixed Model for Repeated Measures including all observations until first discontinuation were -16.9% and -2.4% for semaglutide 2.4 mg and placebo respectively.

³ Estimated from binary regression model based on same imputation procedure as in primary analysis.



Observed values for patients completing each scheduled visit, and estimates with multiple imputations (MI) from retrieved dropouts

Figure 1 STEP 1: Mean change in body weight (%) from baseline to week 68

Following the 68-week trial, a 52-week off-treatment extension was conducted including 327 patients who had completed the main trial period on the maintenance dose of semaglutide or placebo. In the off-treatment period from week 68 to week 120, mean body weight increased in both treatment groups. However, for patients that had been treated with semaglutide for the main trial

period the weight remained 5.6% below baseline compared to 0.1% for the placebo group.

STEP 2: Weight management in patients with type 2 diabetes

In a 68-week, double-blind trial, 1 210 patients with overweight or obesity (BMI ≥ 27 kg/m²) and type 2 diabetes were randomised to either semaglutide 2.4 mg, semaglutide 1 mg once-weekly or placebo. Patients included in the trial had insufficiently controlled diabetes (HbA 7–10%) and were treated 1c with either: diet and exercise alone or 1–3 oral antidiabetic drugs. All patients were on a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity throughout the trial.

Treatment with semaglutide for 68 weeks resulted in superior and clinically meaningful reduction in body weight and in HbA compared to placebo (see Table 5 and Figure 2).

1c

Table 5 STEP 2: Results at week 68

	Wegovy	Placebo
Full analysis set (N)	404	403
Body weight		
Baseline (kg)	99.9	100.5
Change (%) from baseline ^{1,2}	-9.6	-3.4
Difference (%) from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-6.2 [-7.3; -5.2]*	-
Change (kg) from baseline	-9.7	-3.5
Difference (kg) from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-6.1 [-7.2; -5.0]	-
Patients (%) achieving weight loss $\geq 5\%$ ³	67.4*	30.2
Patients (%) achieving weight loss $\geq 10\%$ ³	44.5*	10.2
Patients (%) achieving weight loss $\geq 15\%$ ³	25.0*	4.3
Waist circumference (cm)		
Baseline	114.5	115.5
Change from baseline ¹	-9.4	-4.5
Difference from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-4.9 [-6.0; -3.8]*	-
Systolic blood pressure (mmHg)		
Baseline	130	130
Change from baseline ¹	-3.9	-0.5

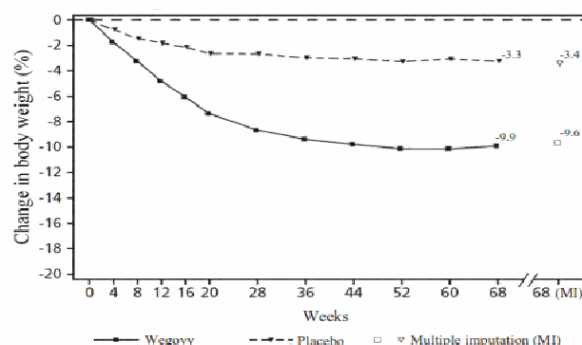
Difference from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-3.4 [-5.6; -1.3]**	-
HbA_{1c} (mmol/mol (%))		
Baseline	65.3 (8.1)	65.3 (8.1)
Change from baseline ¹	-17.5 (-1.6)	-4.1 (-0.4)
Difference from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-13.5 [-15.5; -11.4] (-1.2 [-1.4; -1.1])*	- -

* p<0.0001 (unadjusted 2-sided) for superiority; **p<0.05 (unadjusted 2-sided) for superiority.

¹ Estimated using an ANCOVA model using multiple imputation based on all data irrespective of discontinuation of randomised treatment or initiation of other anti-obesity medication or bariatric surgery.

² During the trial, randomised treatment was permanently discontinued by 11.6% and 13.9% of patients randomised to semaglutide 2.4 mg and placebo, respectively. Assuming that all randomised patients stayed on treatment and did not receive additional anti-obesity therapies, the estimated changes from randomisation to week 68 for body weight based on a Mixed Model for Repeated Measures including all observations until first discontinuation were -10.6% and -3.1% for semaglutide 2.4 mg and placebo respectively

³ Estimated from binary regression model based on same imputation procedure as in primary analysis.



Observed values for patients completing each scheduled visit, and estimates with multiple imputations (MI) from retrieved dropouts

Figure 2 STEP 2: Mean change in body weight (%) from baseline to week 68

STEP 3: Weight management with intensive behavioural therapy

In a 68-week double-blind trial, 611 patients with obesity (BMI $\geq$ 30 kg/m²), or with overweight (BMI $\geq$ 27 kg/m² to <30 kg/m²) and at least one weight-related comorbidity were randomised to semaglutide or placebo. During the trial, all patients received intensive behavioural therapy (IBT) consisting of a very restrictive diet, increased physical activity and behavioural counselling.

Treatment with semaglutide and IBT for 68 weeks resulted in superior and clinically meaningful reduction in body weight compared to placebo (see Table 6).

Table 6 STEP 3: Results at week 68

	Wegovy	Placebo
Full analysis set (N)	407	204
Body weight		
Baseline (kg)	106.9	103.7
Change (%) from baseline ^{1,2}	-16.0	-5.7
Difference (%) from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-10.3 [-12.0; -8.6]*	-
Change (kg) from baseline	-16.8	-6.2
Difference (kg) from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-10.6 [-12.5; -8.8]	-
Patients (%) achieving weight loss $\geq$ 5% ³	84.8*	47.8
Patients (%) achieving weight loss $\geq$ 10% ³	73.0*	27.1

Patients (%) achieving weight loss $\geq 15\%$ ³	53.5*	13.2
Waist circumference (cm)		
Baseline	113.6	111.8
Change from baseline ¹	-14.6	-6.3
Difference from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-8.3 [-10.1; -6.6]*	-
Systolic blood pressure (mmHg)		
Baseline	124	124
Change from baseline ¹	-5.6	-1.6
Difference from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-3.9 [-6.4; -1.5]*	-

* $p < 0.005$ (unadjusted 2-sided) for superiority.

¹ Estimated using an ANCOVA model using multiple imputation based on all data irrespective of discontinuation of randomised treatment or initiation of other anti-obesity medication or bariatric surgery.

² During the trial, randomised treatment was permanently discontinued by 16.7% and 18.6% of patients randomised to semaglutide 2.4 mg and placebo, respectively. Assuming that all randomised patients stayed on treatment and did not receive additional anti-obesity therapies, the estimated changes from randomisation to week 68 for body weight based on a Mixed Model for Repeated Measures including all observations until first discontinuation were -17.6% and -5.0% for semaglutide 2.4 mg and placebo respectively

³ Estimated from binary regression model based on same imputation procedure as in primary analysis.

STEP 4: Sustained weight management

In a 68-week double-blind trial, 902 patients with obesity ($\text{BMI} \geq 30 \text{ kg/m}^2$), or with overweight ($\text{BMI} \geq 27 \text{ kg/m}^2$ to $< 30 \text{ kg/m}^2$) and at least one weight-related comorbidity were included in the trial. All patients were on a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity throughout the trial. From week 0 to week 20 (run-in), all patients received semaglutide. At week 20 (baseline), patients who had reached the maintenance dose of 2.4 mg were randomised to continue treatment or switch to placebo. At week 0 (start of run-in period) patients had a mean body weight of 107.2 kg and a mean BMI of

38.4 kg/m^2 .

Patients who had reached the maintenance dose of 2.4 mg at week 20 (baseline) and continued treatment with semaglutide for 48 weeks (week 20–68) continued losing weight and had a superior and clinically meaningful reduction in body weight compared to those switched to placebo (see Table 7 and Figure 3). The body weight increased steadily from week 20 to week 68 in patients switching to placebo at week 20 (baseline). Nevertheless, the observed mean body weight was lower at week 68 than at start of the run-in period (week 0) (see Figure 3). Patients treated with semaglutide from week 0 (run-in) to week 68 (end of treatment) achieved a mean change in body weight of -17.4%, with weight loss $\geq 5\%$ achieved by 87.8%, $\geq 10\%$ achieved by 78.0%, $\geq 15\%$ achieved by 62.2% and $\geq 20\%$ achieved by 38.6% of these patients.

Table 7 STEP 4: Results from week 20 to week 68

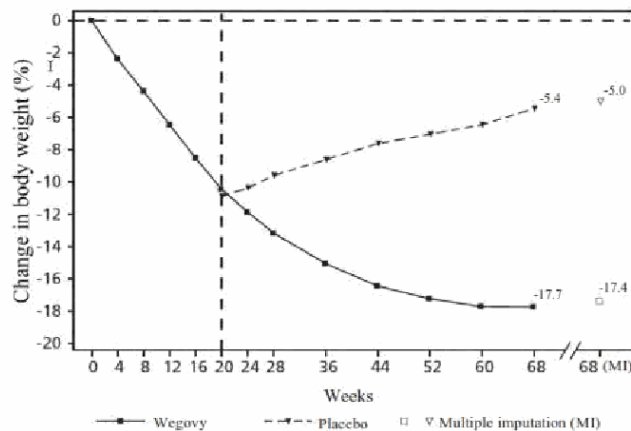
	Wegovy	Placebo
Full analysis set (N)	535	268
Body weight		
Baseline ¹ (kg)	96.5	95.4
Change (%) from baseline ^{1,2,3}	-7.9	6.9
Difference (%) from placebo ² [95% CI]	-14.8 [-16.0; -13.5]*	-
Change (kg) from baseline	-7.1	6.1
Difference (kg) from placebo ² [95% CI]	-13.2 [-14.3; -12.0]	-
Waist circumference (cm)		
Baseline	105.5	104.7
Change from baseline ¹	-6.4	3.3
Difference from placebo ² [95% CI]	-9.7 [-10.9; -8.5]*	-
Systolic blood pressure (mmHg)		
Baseline ¹	121	121
Change from baseline ^{1,2}	0.5	4.4
Difference from placebo ² [95% CI]	-3.9 [-5.8; -2.0]*	-

* p<0.0001 (unadjusted 2-sided) for superiority.

¹ Baseline = week 20

² Estimated using an ANCOVA model using multiple imputation based on all data irrespective of discontinuation of randomised treatment or initiation of other anti-obesity medication or bariatric surgery.

³ During the trial, randomised treatment was permanently discontinued by 5.8% and 11.6% of patients randomized to semaglutide 2.4 mg and placebo, respectively. Assuming that all randomised patients stayed on treatment and did not receive additional anti-obesity therapies, the estimated changes from randomisation to week 68 for body weight based on a Mixed Model for Repeated Measures including all observations until first discontinuation were -8.1% and 6.5% for semaglutide 2.4 mg and placebo respectively.



Observed values for patients completing each scheduled visit, and estimates with multiple imputations (MI) from retrieved dropouts

Figure 3 STEP 4: Mean change in body weight (%) from week 0 to week 68

STEP 5: 2-year data

In a 104-week double-blind trial, 304 patients with obesity (BMI ≥ 30 kg/m²), or with overweight (BMI ≥ 27 to <30 kg/m²) and at least one weight-related comorbidity, were randomised to semaglutide or placebo. All patients were on a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity throughout the trial. At baseline, patients had a mean BMI of 38.5 kg/m², a mean body weight of 106.0 kg.

Treatment with semaglutide for 104 weeks resulted in a superior and clinically meaningful reduction in body weight compared to placebo. Mean body weight decreased from baseline through to week 68 with semaglutide after which a plateau was reached. With placebo, mean body weight decreased less, and a plateau was reached after approximately 20 weeks of treatment (see Table 8 and Figure 4). Patients treated with semaglutide achieved a mean change in body weight of -15.2%, with weight loss $\geq 5\%$ achieved by 74.7%, $\geq 10\%$ achieved by 59.2% and $\geq 15\%$ achieved by 49.7% of these patients. Among patients with prediabetes at baseline, 80% and 37% achieved a normoglycaemic status at end of treatment with semaglutide and placebo, respectively.

Table 8 STEP 5: Results at week 104

	Wegovy	Placebo
Full analysis set (N)	152	152
Body weight		
Baseline (kg)	105.6	106.5
Change (%) from baseline ^{1, 2}	-15.2	-2.6
Difference (%) from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-12.6 [-15.3; -9.8]*	-
Change (kg) from baseline	-16.1	-3.2
Difference (kg) from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-12.9 [-16.1; -9.8]	-
Patients (%) achieving weight loss $\geq 5\%$ ³	74.7*	37.3
Patients (%) achieving weight loss $\geq 10\%$ ³	59.2*	16.8
Patients (%) achieving weight loss $\geq 15\%$ ³	49.7*	9.2

Waist circumference (cm)		
Baseline	115.8	115.7
Change from baseline ¹	-14.4	5.2
Difference from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-9.2 [-12.2; -6.2]*	-
Systolic blood pressure (mmHg)		
Baseline	126	125
Change from baseline ¹	-5.7	-1.6
Difference from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-4.2 [-7.3; -1.0]*	-

* $p < 0.0001$ (unadjusted 2-sided) for superiority.

¹ Estimated using an ANCOVA model using multiple imputation based on all data irrespective of discontinuation of randomised treatment or initiation of other anti-obesity medication or bariatric surgery.

² During the trial, randomised treatment was permanently discontinued by 13.2% and 27.0% of patients randomised to semaglutide and placebo, respectively. Assuming that all randomised patients stayed on treatment and did not receive additional anti-obesity therapies, the estimated changes from randomisation to week 68 for body weight based on a Mixed Model for Repeated Measures including all observations until first discontinuation were -16.7% and -0.6% for semaglutide and placebo respectively.

³ Estimated from binary regression model based on same imputation procedure as in primary analysis.

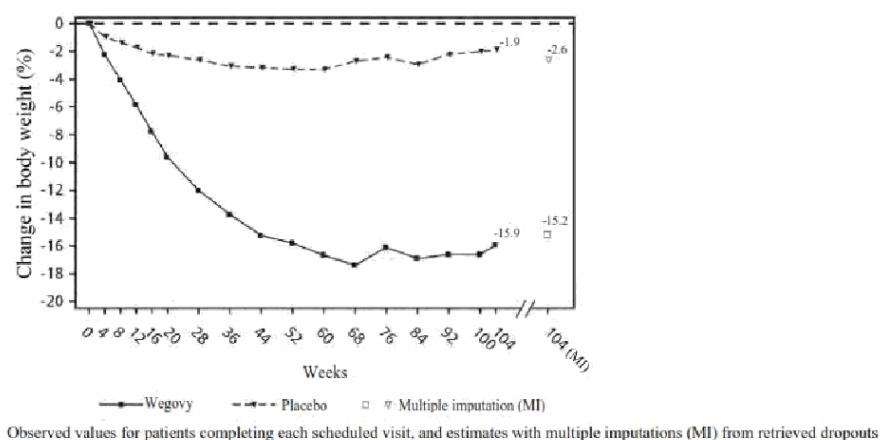


Figure 4 STEP 5: Mean change in body weight (%) from week 0 to week 104

STEP 8: Semaglutide vs liraglutide

In a 68-week, randomised, osyringe-label, pairwise placebo-controlled trial, 338 patients with obesity (BMI ≥ 30 kg/m²), or with overweight (BMI ≥ 27 to < 30 kg/m²) and at least one weight-related comorbidity, were randomised to semaglutide once weekly, liraglutide 3 mg once daily or placebo. Semaglutide once weekly and liraglutide 3 mg were osyringe-label, but each active treatment group was double-blinded against placebo administered at the same dosing frequency. All patients were on a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity throughout the trial. At baseline, patients had a mean BMI of 37.5 kg/m², a mean body weight of 104.5 kg.

Treatment with semaglutide once weekly for 68 weeks resulted in superior and clinically meaningful reduction in body weight compared to liraglutide. Mean body weight decreased from baseline through to week 68 with semaglutide. With liraglutide, mean body weight decreased less (see Table 9). 37.4% of the patients treated with semaglutide lost $\geq 20\%$, compared to 7.0% treated with liraglutide. Table 9 shows the results of the confirmatory endpoints $\geq 10\%$, $\geq 15\%$ and $\geq 20\%$ weight loss.

Table 9 STEP 8: Results of a 68-week trial comparing semaglutide with liraglutide

	Wegovy	Liraglutide 3 mg
Full analysis set (N)	126	127
Body weight		
Baseline (kg)	102.5	103.7
Change (%) from baseline ^{1,2}	-15.8	-6.4

Difference (%) from liraglutide ¹ [95% CI]	-9.4 [-12.0;-6.8]*	-
Change (kg) from baseline	-15.3	-6.8
Difference (kg) from liraglutide ¹ [95% CI]	-8.5 [-11.2;-5.7]	-
Patients (%) achieving weight loss $\geq 10\%$ ³	69.4*	27.2
Patients (%) achieving weight loss $\geq 15\%$ ³	54.0*	13.4
Patients (%) achieving weight loss $\geq 20\%$ ³	37.4*	7.0

* p<0.005 (unadjusted 2-sided) for superiority.

¹ Estimated using an ANCOVA model using multiple imputation based on all data irrespective of discontinuation of randomised treatment or initiation of other anti-obesity medication or bariatric surgery.

² During the trial, randomised treatment was permanently discontinued by 13.5% and 27.6% of patients randomised to semaglutide and liraglutide, respectively. Assuming that all randomised patients stayed on treatment and did not receive additional anti-obesity therapies, the estimated changes from randomisation to week 68 for body weight based on a Mixed Model for Repeated Measures including all observations until first discontinuation were -16.7% and -6.7% for semaglutide and liraglutide respectively.

³ Estimated from binary regression model based on same imputation procedure as in primary analysis.

Effect on body composition

In a sub-study in STEP 1 (N = 140), body composition was measured using dual energy X-ray absorptiometry (DEXA). The results of the DEXA assessment showed that treatment with semaglutide was accompanied by greater reduction in fat mass than in lean body mass leading to an improvement in body composition compared to placebo after 68 weeks. Furthermore, this reduction in total fat mass was accompanied by a reduction in visceral fat. These results suggest that most of the total weight loss was attributable to a reduction in fat tissue, including visceral fat.

Improvement in physical functioning

Semaglutide showed small improvements in physical functioning scores. Physical functioning was assessed using both the generic health-related quality of life questionnaire Short Form-36v2 Health Survey, Acute Version (SF-36) and the obesity-specific questionnaire Impact of Weight on Quality of Life Lite Clinical Trials Version (IWQOL-Lite-CT).

Cardiovascular evaluation

SELECT: Cardiovascular outcomes trial in patients with overweight or obesity

SELECT was a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, event driven trial which included 17 604 patients with established cardiovascular disease and BMI ≥ 27 kg/m². Patients were randomized to either semaglutide 2.4 mg (n=8 803) or placebo (n=8 801) in addition to standard-of-care. The median time in trial was 41.8 months. Vital status was available for 99.4% of subjects in the trial.

The study population consisted of 27.7 % female and 72.3 % male patients, with a mean age of 61.6 years, including 38.2 % patients ≥ 65 years (n=6 728) and 7.8 % patients ≥ 75 years (n=1 366). The mean BMI was 33.3 kg/m² and mean body weight was 96.7 kg. Patients with history of type 1 and type 2 diabetes were excluded.

The primary endpoint was the time from randomisation to first occurrence of major adverse cardiovascular events (MACE), defined as a composite endpoint

consisting of cardiovascular death (including undetermined cause of death), non-fatal myocardial infarction, or non-fatal stroke. The primary endpoint, time to first MACE, occurred in 1 270 of the 17 604 patients included in the SELECT trial. Specifically, 569 first MACE (6.5%) were recorded among the 8 803 patients treated with semaglutide, compared to 701 first MACE (8.0%) among the 8 801 patients treated with placebo. A total of 63 (11.1%) of the first MACE with semaglutide and 80 (11.4%) with placebo were undetermined cause of death.

Superiority of semaglutide 2.4 mg versus placebo for MACE was confirmed with a hazard ratio of

0.80 [0.72; 0.90][95% CI], corresponding to a relative risk reduction in MACE of 20 % (see Figure 5). The effect on each component to the reduction of MACE is shown in Figure 6. The reduction of MACE with semaglutide 2.4 mg was not impacted by age, sex, race, ethnicity, BMI at baseline, or level of renal function impairment.

Analysis of the cardiovascular death (the first confirmatory secondary endpoint) resulted in a hazard ratio of 0.85 [0.71; 1.01][95% CI].

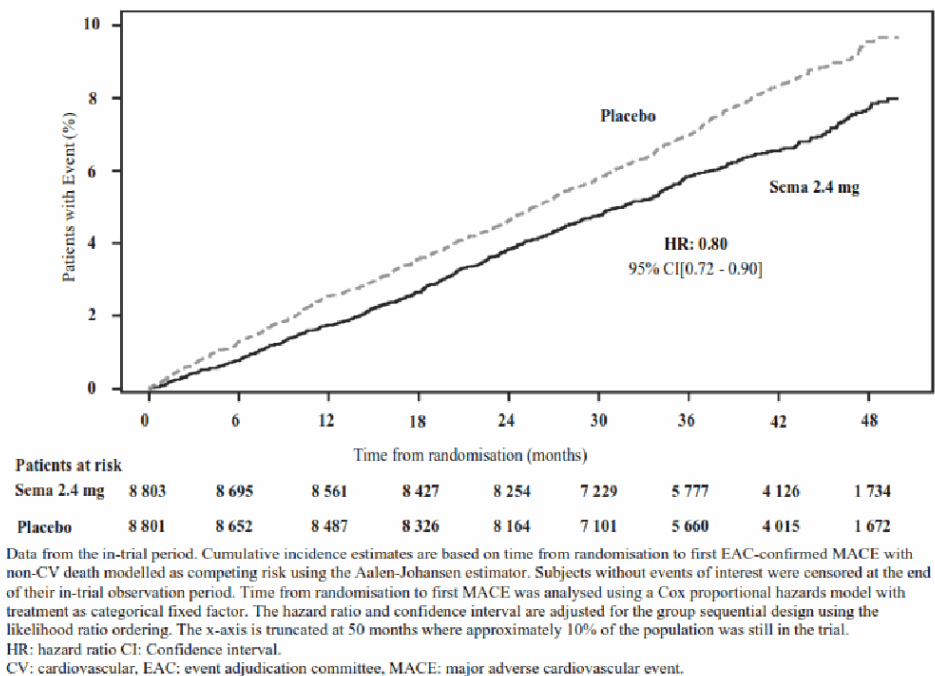
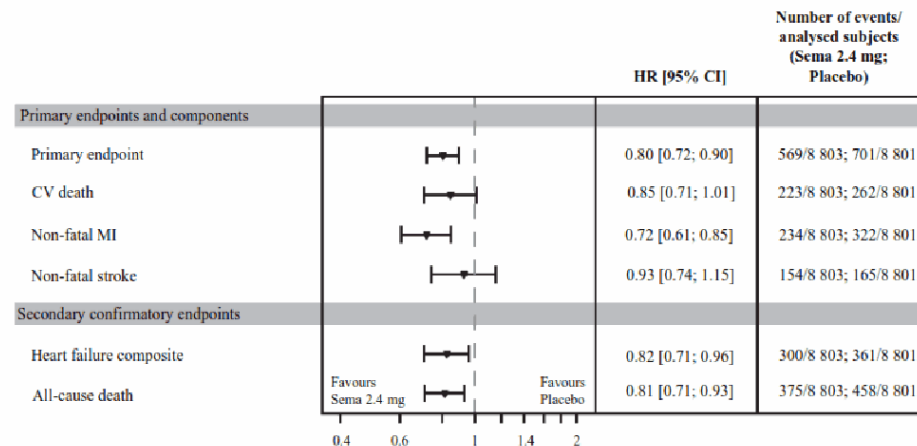


Figure 5: Time from randomisation to first MACE Cumulative incidence function plot



Data from the in-trial period. Time from randomisation to each endpoint was analysed using a Cox proportional hazards model with treatment as categorical fixed factor. Subjects without events of interest were censored at the end of their in-trial period. For the primary endpoint the HR and CI were adjusted for the group sequential design using likelihood ratio ordering. Secondary endpoints are not under multiplicity control. CV death includes both cardiovascular death and undetermined cause of death.
 HR: hazard ratio CI: Confidence interval.
 CV: cardiovascular, MI: myocardial infarction.

Figure 6: Forest plot of time from randomisation to first MACE, MACE components and secondary confirmatory endpoints

SUSTAIN 6: Cardiovascular outcomes trial in patients with type 2 diabetes

In the SUSTAIN 6 trial, 3 297 patients with insufficiently controlled type 2 diabetes and at high risk of cardiovascular events were randomised to semaglutide s.c. 0.5 mg or 1 mg once-weekly or placebo in addition to standard-of-care. The treatment duration was 104 weeks. The mean age was 65 years and the mean BMI was 33 kg/m².

The primary endpoint was the time from randomisation to first occurrence of a major adverse cardiovascular event (MACE): cardiovascular death, non-fatal myocardial infarction or non-fatal stroke. The total number of the MACE was 254, including 108 (6.6%) with semaglutide and 146 (8.9%) with placebo.

The cardiovascular safety of treatment with semaglutide 0.5 or 1 mg was confirmed as the hazard ratio (HR) for semaglutide vs. placebo was 0.74, [0.58, 0.95] [95% CI], driven by a decrease in the rate of non-fatal stroke and non-fatal myocardial infarction with no difference in cardiovascular death (see Figure 7).

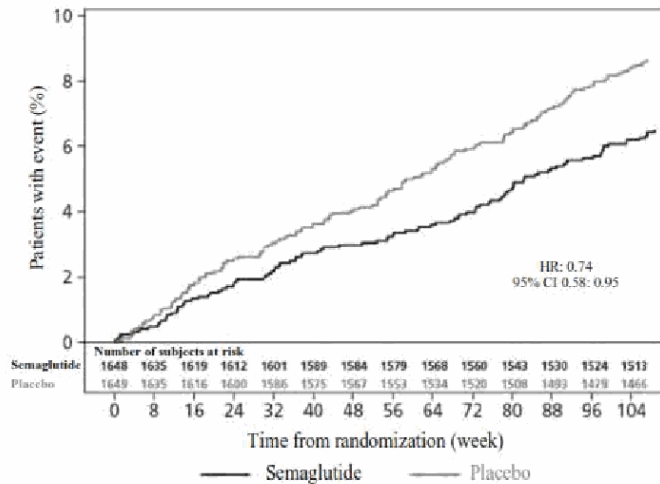


Figure 7: Kaplan-Maier plot of time to first occurrence of the composite outcome: Cardiovascular death, non-fatal myocardial infarction or non-fatal stroke (SUSTAIN 6)

Paediatric population

The European Medicines Agency has deferred the obligation to submit the results of studies with Semaglutide in one or more subsets of the paediatric population in the treatment of weight management (see section 4.2 for information on paediatric use).

STEP TEENS: Weight management in adolescent patients

In a 68-week double-blind trial 201 pubertal adolescents, ages 12 to <18 years, with obesity or overweight and at least one weight-related comorbidity were randomised 2:1 to semaglutide or placebo. All patients were on a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity throughout the trial.

At end of treatment (week 68), the improvement in BMI with semaglutide was superior and clinically meaningful compared with placebo (see Table 10 and Figure 8). Furthermore, a higher proportion of patients achieved $\geq 5\%$, 10% and $\geq 15\%$ weight loss with semaglutide compared with placebo (see Table 10).

Table 10 STEP TEENS: Results at week 68

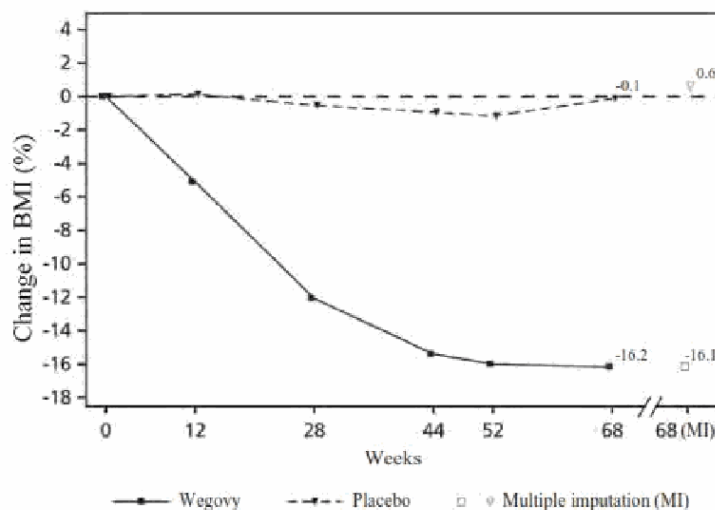
	Wegovy	Placebo
Full analysis set (N)	134	67
BMI		
Baseline (BMI)	37.7	35.7
Change (%) from baseline ^{1,2}	-16.1	0.6
Difference (%) from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-16.7 [-20.3; -13.2] [*]	-
Baseline (BMI SDS)	3.4	3.1
Change from baseline in BMI SDS ¹	-1.1	-0.1
Difference from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-1.0 [-1.3; -0.8]	-
Body Weight		
Baseline (kg)	109.9	102.6
Change (%) from baseline ¹	-14.7	2.8
Difference (%) from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-17.4 [-21.1; -13.8]	-
Change (kg) from baseline ¹	-15.3	2.4
Difference (kg) from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-17.7 [-21.8; -13.7]	-
Patients (%) achieving weight loss $\geq 5\%$ ³	72.5 [*]	17.7
Patients (%) achieving weight loss $\geq 10\%$ ³	61.8	8.1
Patients (%) achieving weight loss $\geq 15\%$ ³	53.4	4.8
Waist circumference (cm)		
Baseline	111.9	107.3
Change from baseline ¹	-12.7	-0.6
Difference from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-12.1 [-15.6; -8.7]	-
Systolic blood pressure (mmHg)		
Baseline	120	120
Change from baseline ¹	-2.7	-0.8
Difference from placebo ¹ [95% CI]	-1.9 [-5.0; 1.1]	-

^{*} p<0.0001 (unadjusted 2-sided) for superiority.

¹ Estimated using an ANCOVA model using multiple imputation based on all data irrespective of discontinuation of randomised treatment or initiation of other anti-obesity medication or bariatric surgery.

² During the trial, randomised treatment was permanently discontinued by 10.4% and 10.4% of patients randomised to semaglutide 2.4 mg and placebo, respectively. Assuming that all randomised patients stayed on treatment and did not receive additional anti-obesity therapies, the estimated changes from randomisation to week 68 for BMI based on a Mixed Model for Repeated Measures including all observations until first discontinuation were -17.9% and 0.6% for semaglutide 2.4 mg and placebo respectively

³ Estimated from logistic regression model based on same imputation procedure as in primary analysis.



Observed values for patients completing each scheduled visit, and estimates with multiple imputations (MI) from retrieved dropouts

Figure 8 STEP TEENS: Mean change in BMI (%) from baseline to week 68

5.2. Pharmacokinetic properties

Compared to native GLP-1, semaglutide has a prolonged half-life of around 1 week making it suitable for once weekly subcutaneous administration. The principal mechanism of protraction is albumin binding, which results in decreased renal clearance and protection from metabolic degradation. Furthermore, semaglutide is stabilised against degradation by the DPP-4 enzyme.

Absorption

The average semaglutide steady state concentration following s.c. administration of the semaglutide maintenance dose was approximately 75 nmol/L in patients with overweight (BMI ≥ 27 kg/m² to <30 kg/m²) or obesity (BMI ≥ 30 kg/m²) based on data from phase 3a trials, where 90% of patients had average concentrations between 51 nmol/L and 110 nmol/L. The steady state exposure of semaglutide increased proportionally with doses from 0.25 mg up to 2.4 mg once weekly. Steady state exposure was stable with time as assessed up to week 68. Similar exposure was achieved with s.c. administration of semaglutide in the abdomen, thigh, or upper arm. The absolute bioavailability of semaglutide was 89%.

Distribution

The mean volume of distribution of semaglutide following s.c. administration in patients with overweight or obesity was approximately 12.4 L. Semaglutide is extensively bound to plasma albumin ($>99\%$).

Metabolism/biotransformation

Prior to excretion, semaglutide is extensively metabolised through proteolytic cleavage of the peptide backbone and sequential beta-oxidation of the fatty acid side chain. The enzyme neutral endopeptidase (NEP) was identified as one of the active metabolic enzymes.

Elimination

The primary excretion routes of semaglutide-related material are via the urine and faeces. Approximately 3% of the absorbed dose was excreted in the urine as intact semaglutide. The clearance of semaglutide in patients with overweight (BMI ≥ 27 kg/m² to <30 kg/m²) or obesity (BMI ≥ 30 kg/m²) was approximately 0.05 L/h. With an elimination half-life of approximately 1 week, semaglutide will be present in the circulation for approximately 7 weeks after the last dose of 2.4 mg.

Special populations

Elderly

Age had no effect on the pharmacokinetics of semaglutide based on data from phase 3 trials including patients 18–86 years of age.

Gender, race and ethnicity

Gender, race (White, Black or African American, Asian) and ethnicity (Hispanic or Latino, nonHispanic or-Latino) had no effect on the pharmacokinetics of semaglutide based on data from phase 3a trials.

Body weight

Body weight had an effect on the exposure of semaglutide. Higher body weight was associated with lower exposure; a 20% difference in body weight between individuals will result in an approximate 18% difference in exposure. The 2.4 mg weekly dose of semaglutide provided adequate systemic exposures over the body weight range of 54.4-245.6 kg evaluated for exposure response in the clinical trials.

Renal impairment

Renal impairment did not impact the pharmacokinetics of semaglutide in a clinically relevant manner. This was shown with a single dose of 0.5 mg semaglutide for patients with different degrees of renal impairment (mild, moderate, severe or patients in dialysis) compared with patients with normal renal function. This was also shown for patients with overweight (BMI ≥ 27 kg/m² to <30 kg/m²) or obesity (BMI ≥ 30 kg/m²) and mild to moderate renal impairment based on data from phase 3a trials.

Hepatic impairment

Hepatic impairment did not have any impact on the exposure of semaglutide. The pharmacokinetics of semaglutide were evaluated in patients with different degrees of hepatic impairment (mild, moderate, severe) and compared with patients with normal hepatic function in a study with a single dose of 0.5 mg semaglutide.

Prediabetes and diabetes

Prediabetes and diabetes did not have any clinically relevant effect on the exposure of semaglutide based on data from phase 3 trials.

Immunogenicity

Development of anti-semaglutide antibodies when treated with semaglutide occurred infrequently (see section 4.8) and the response did not appear to influence semaglutide pharmacokinetics.

Paediatrics

Pharmacokinetic properties for semaglutide were assessed in a clinical trial for adolescent patients with obesity or overweight and at least one weight-related comorbidity ages 12 to <18 years (124 patients, body weight 61.6-211.9 kg). The semaglutide exposure in adolescents was similar to that in adults with obesity or overweight.

Safety and efficacy of semaglutide in children below 12 years of age have not been studied.

5.3. Preclinical safety data

Preclinical data reveal no special hazards for humans based on conventional studies of safety pharmacology, repeat-dose toxicity or genotoxicity.

Non-lethal thyroid C-cell tumours observed in rodents are a class effect for GLP-1 receptor agonists. In 2-year carcinogenicity studies in rats and mice, semaglutide caused thyroid C-cell tumours at clinically relevant exposures. No other treatment-related tumours were observed. The rodent C-cell tumours are caused by a non-genotoxic, specific GLP-1 receptor mediated mechanism to which rodents are particularly sensitive. The relevance for humans is considered to be low, but cannot be completely excluded.

In fertility studies in rats, semaglutide did not affect mating performance or male fertility. In female rats, an increase in oestrous cycle length and a small reduction in corpora lutea (ovulations) were observed at doses associated with maternal body weight loss.

In embryo-foetal development studies in rats, semaglutide caused embryotoxicity below clinically relevant exposures. Semaglutide caused marked reductions in maternal body weight and reductions in embryonic survival and growth. In foetuses, major skeletal and visceral malformations were observed, including effects on long bones, ribs, vertebrae, tail, blood vessels and brain ventricles. Mechanistic evaluations indicated that the embryotoxicity involved a GLP-1 receptor mediated impairment of the nutrient supply to the embryo across the rat yolk sac. Due to species differences in yolk sac anatomy and function, and due to lack of GLP-1 receptor expression in the yolk sac of non-human primates, this mechanism is considered unlikely to be of relevance to humans. However, a direct effect of semaglutide on the foetus cannot be excluded.

In developmental toxicity studies in rabbits and cynomolgus monkeys, increased pregnancy loss and slightly increased incidence of foetal abnormalities were observed at clinically relevant exposures. The findings coincided with marked maternal body weight loss of up to 16%. Whether these effects are related to the decreased maternal food consumption as a direct GLP-1 effect is unknown.

Postnatal growth and development were evaluated in cynomolgus monkeys. Infants were slightly smaller at delivery but recovered during the lactation period.

In juvenile rats, semaglutide caused delayed sexual maturation in both males and females. These delays had no impact upon fertility and reproductive capacity of either sex, or on the ability of the females to maintain pregnancy.

6. Pharmaceutical particulars

6.1. List of excipients

Disodium phosphate, dihydrate

Sodium Chloride

Hydrochloric acid (for pH adjustment)

Sodium hydroxide (for pH adjustment)

Water for injections

6.2. Incompatibilities

In the absence of compatibility studies this medicinal product must not be mixed with other medicinal products.

6.3. Shelf life

2 years

6.4. Special precautions for storage

Store in a refrigerator (2°C-8 °C). Keep out of reach of children

Do not freeze.

Pre-filled syringe, single dose

Store the syringe in the original carton in order to protect from light.

6.5. Nature and contents of container

Pre-filled syringe, single dose 1 mL glass syringe (type I glass) with attached stainless-steel needle and a rubber plunger (type Bromobutyl).

Pack sizes

Pre-filled syringe, single dose (1, 1.7 and 2.4mg)

Pack size of 1 pre-filled syringe.

6.6. Special precautions for disposal and other handling

Semaglutide should not be used if it does not appear clear and colourless.

The syringe should not be used if it has been frozen.

Any unused medicinal product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

The syringe is for single-dose only.

7. MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Q PHARMA DMCC

Unit No: 2681 DMCC Business Centre

Level No. 1 Dubai P.O BOX 119023, UAE

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