

Wegovy Breaks New Ground, FDA Greenlights MASH Indication

Market Event Summary

Wegovy may serve as a key agent in MASH treatment

Background

On August 15, 2025, Novo Nordisk's Wegovy (SC semaglutide) was granted accelerated approval for the treatment of noncirrhotic MASH with F2-F3 fibrosis. Prior to Wegovy, Madrigal's Rezdiffra (resmetirom) was the only pharmacologic therapy approved for MASH, with clinical management largely focused on lifestyle modifications and addressing comorbidities.

Key differentiator

Already approved for obesity, T2D, and CV risk reduction, semaglutide has been widely adopted and benefits from a wealth of data supporting its beneficial effects on clinical outcomes. Its targeting of both steatohepatic progression and metabolic dysfunction sets it apart from resmetirom and emerging liver-targeting MASH treatments.

Watershed moment for the emerging GLP-1 RAs

- The ESSENCE trial serves as a benchmark for MASH trials of GLP-1 RA drugs and creates a path for other emerging therapies to gain approval in MASH.
- Emerging dual agonists like tirzepatide and survodutide have the potential to be strong competitors to Wegovy in MASH because their efficacy could surpass that of the single-target approaches.

Unmet need

While Rezdiffra and Wegovy are approved for noncirrhotic MASH (F2-F3), no therapies address advanced MASH with cirrhosis (F4)

Clarivate's takeaways



Access and reimbursement

Wegovy's reimbursement is likely to improve—especially for obese patients with MASH who now have stronger justification for insurance coverage. Improved coverage and access will be growth drivers, but low MASH diagnosis rates will restrict new patient uptake.



Metabolic breakthrough

Wegovy's ability to target multiple comorbid conditions enhances its therapeutic value, potentially accelerating its inclusion in clinical guidelines and supporting its role as a first-line treatment option for MASH.



Combination strategy

The complementary mechanisms of Rezdiffra and Wegovy present a compelling rationale for combination therapy, potentially offering additive or synergistic benefits in MASH patients with advanced fibrosis or suboptimal response to monotherapy.



Impact on MASH diagnosis and treatment rates

MASH diagnosis and treatment rates will increase with the introduction of Wegovy, which provides a clear therapeutic course of action following the confirmation of a MASH diagnosis.

About the author



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Clarivate coverage of Metabolic Dysfunction-Associated Steatohepatitis (MASH)

- [Disease Landscape & Forecast: MASH - G7](#)
- [Epidemiology](#): Diagnosed incidence and prevalence data for various MASH population segments in different regions, including G7 countries
- [Current Treatment: Treatment Algorithms](#): US - Explores the current prescribing trends of hepatologists and gastroenterologists treating MASH
- [Current Treatment: Physician Insights](#): US - Explores the current prescribing trends of hepatologists and gastroenterologists treating MASH
- [Unmet Need](#): MASH: US and EU5
- [Access & Reimbursement](#): MASH: US and EU5
- [China In-Depth](#): MASH - China



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