

## Medicines Optimisation Advice Bulletin - August 2025

### *For the attention of primary and secondary care staff involved in patient care*

#### Initiation of Tirzepatide for Type 2 Diabetes

Tirzepatide is an injectable treatment which is NICE-approved for treating type 2 diabetes as per [TA924](#).

In Norfolk and Waveney, we've commissioned this treatment as per the table below:

<b>ADVICE</b>	Tirzepatide is commissioned in Norfolk and Waveney for treating type 2 diabetes in accordance with the recommendation set out in the technology Appraisal <a href="#">TA924</a> .
<b>BLACK</b>	Tirzepatide should not be prescribed in primary care for Type 2 diabetes for any patients other than those who meet the NICE criteria in <a href="#">TA924</a> .

Please see [Netformulary](#) for more information on the latest local formulary recommendations.

The Norfolk and Waveney Area Prescribing Committee (TAG) have recommended that this is classified as **ADVICE - Primary care initiation following specialist recommendation - receipt of verbal or written recommendation from primary or secondary care specialist with relevant expertise**. This means that any diabetologist, endocrinologist or primary care clinician with specialist interest and experience in diabetes can recommend this for initiation within primary care. **It is restricted for use only in those patients who meet the criteria listed in the NICE guidance**. It is the specialists' responsibility to ensure that they make such recommendations in line within this guidance.

As per [TA924](#), Tirzepatide is recommended for type 2 diabetes alongside diet and exercise in adults when it is insufficiently controlled **only if**:

- triple therapy with metformin and 2 other oral antidiabetic drugs is ineffective, not tolerated or contraindicated, **and**
  - they have a body mass index (BMI) of 35 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or more, and specific psychological or other medical problems associated with obesity, **or**
  - they have a BMI of less than 35 kg/m<sup>2</sup>, **and**:
    - insulin therapy would have significant occupational implications, **or**
    - weight loss would benefit other significant obesity-related complications.

(Use lower BMI thresholds (usually reduced by 2.5 kg/m<sup>2</sup>) for people from South Asian, Chinese, other Asian, Middle Eastern, Black African or African-Caribbean family backgrounds.)

Tirzepatide is **not commissioned and should not be prescribed** for any add-on therapy *outside of the criteria of the NICE TA*, or for any other diabetes patient cohorts.

Please email the medicines optimisation team if you have any queries - [nwcb.medsqueries@nhs.net](mailto:nwcb.medsqueries@nhs.net). Please also let the team know if you think that Tirzepatide has been recommended for type 2 diabetes outside of NICE guidance.

Many thanks for your support.

On behalf of the Norfolk and Waveney Therapeutics Advisory Group