

Weight Management Bulletin: Issue 6

Updated Website resources

Public facing - <https://nhsdorset.nhs.uk/health/medicines/weight/>

Healthcare professionals - <https://nhsdorset.nhs.uk/medicines/weight/>

FAQs - <https://nhsdorset.nhs.uk/medicines/weight/#faq>

Key Information for Referrers

- All referrals for a medicated obesity pathway must be submitted using the 'NHS Obesity Medication Pathway' referral form in SystmOne or downloaded [here](#) and sent to the Weight Management Referral Hub.
- All fields on the referral form must be completed; incomplete forms will be rejected.
- If a patient is not eligible for a medicated pathway, they will be offered alternative support, or the patient will be discharged.
- The Referral Hub will offer patients a choice of weight-management service providers.
- Eligible patients can be identified via the Weight Management folder in Dorset SystmOneGPs, under Clinical Reporting.
- **Referrals for Cohort 1 & 2 are now live.** A patient status 'icon' is now visible on patient's home screen in SystmOne
- The new Community Weight Management Service will commence seeing patients in January and is accepting referrals via the Weight Management Referral Hub from all providers,
- Referrals for bariatric services should be referred directly to the Bariatric Service at UHD.
- An FAQ session will be held for medical secretaries with more information on how to refer into the Weight Management Referral Hub on Jan 6th. Further details will follow in the coming week.

Eligibility for Medicated Pathways

- Reminder: from 1 July 2025, the [evidence-based intervention policy](#) (EBI) for community and specialist weight management services has been revised.
- Criteria for prescribing semaglutide and tirzepatide in services have been aligned to the criteria described on our public facing website.

- These changes do not affect the prescribing criteria of semaglutide or tirzepatide in Tier 4 services. ([Referral-for-bariatric-surgery](#))

Eligibility for Tier 3 Non-Medicated Pathways

- Eligibility for this remains unchanged at BMI > 35 and can be requested at the top of the referral form.

Referring patients eligible for a medicated pathway

The referral criteria are available to the public and phased access to more patients will be as follows

Cohort 1	2025/26	BMI $\geq 40^*$ and ≥ 4 qualifying comorbidities (hypertension, dyslipidaemia, sleep apnoea, cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes)
Cohort 2	2026/27	BMI 35-39.9* and ≥ 4 qualifying comorbidities (hypertension, dyslipidaemia, sleep apnoea, cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes)
Cohort 3	2027/28	BMI $\geq 40^*$ and 3 qualifying comorbidities (hypertension, dyslipidaemia, sleep apnoea, cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes)

Searches in SystmOne

The first cohort searches are published, and practices are encouraged to refer eligible patients as soon as practicable.

[Folder: DorsetSystmOneGPs / Weight Management / Community Weight Management](#)

Capacity for the first cohort of people eligible for a medicated pathways is funded for 330 patients in cohort 1 and we anticipate this figure will rise for cohort 2. Activity limits will apply to the service, and any waiting list will be managed by the weight management referral hub with waiting well supported.

Weight management referral Hub (livewell@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

The Weight Management Referral Hub, operated by LiveWell Dorset, **are now taking referrals**. The hub integrates eligibility criteria, readiness to benefit, using behaviour change models with the activity funding available in our system.

Referrals made directly to Oviva will be returned to the referrer.

Referrals requesting a medicated pathway who are not eligible will be returned to the referrer for consideration.

[More information will follow in Issue 7](#)