

**Missouri State Medical Association
House of Delegates**

Resolution # 8
(A-24)

Introduced by: Morgan Martin, Bethany Baumgartner, Kansas City University

Subject: Continued Ozempic Research

Referred to:

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- 1 **WHEREAS**, Ozempic, a glucagon-like peptide-1 agonist containing semaglutide, is prescribed as a weekly
2 injection, approved in 2017 by the US Food and Drug Administration for type 2 diabetes use in adults; ^{1,2}
3 and,
4
- 5 **WHEREAS**, Ozempic has become prevalent in popular culture for its appetite-reducing effects and
6 subsequent weight loss shown in patients, making it an appealing option for weight management and
7 risk reduction of stroke, heart attack, and death in type 2 diabetic and/or obese patients; ^{2,3} and,
8
- 9 **WHEREAS**, Ozempic has been debated for its risks presented to type 1 diabetic patients, patients
10 without diabetes, or patients with multiple endocrine neoplasia type 2 or a family history of medullary
11 thyroid cancer; ² and,
12
- 13 **WHEREAS**, the risks for Ozempic use in general include but may not be limited to: hypoglycemia,
14 gastrointestinal side effects, pancreatitis and pancreatic cancer, thyroid cancer, gallbladder events,
15 cardiovascular aspects, acute kidney injury, diabetic retinopathy complications, and injection-site and
16 allergic reactions; ⁴ and,
17
- 18 **WHEREAS**, the safety of using Ozempic and other semaglutide forms has been determined to have an
19 overall favorable risk/benefit profile for type 2 diabetics, while the implications for non-diabetic patients
20 using Ozempic solely for weight loss are currently debated. The efficacy for weight loss by Ozempic has
21 shown in studies to be effective, but lacks clinical trials and long term research on the effects of use as a
22 weight loss agent; ^{1,4,5} therefore, be it,
23
- 24 **RESOLVED**, the MSMA supports evidence-based medicine and the continuation of research for Ozempic
25 and its off label uses, especially in weight loss, and be it further,
26
- 27 **RESOLVED**, the MSMA advises physicians use their discretion and practice caution for new medications
28 which have not yet been approved for weight loss.

Fiscal Note: None

Current Policy:

References:

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5. Chao AM, Tronieri JS, Amaro A, Wadden TA. Semaglutide for the treatment of obesity. *Trends Cardiovasc Med*. 2023;33(3):159-166. doi:10.1016/j.tcm.2021.12.008