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GLP-1 Receptor Agonists

Glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists (GLP-1 RAs) are a class of drugs used in the management of:

- Type 2 diabetes mellitus
- Obesity and overweight
- Cardiovascular risk reduction

They mimic the action of the GLP-1 hormone, enhancing glucose-dependent insulin secretion and reducing appetite.

□ Mechanism of Action

- Stimulates insulin secretion (glucose-dependent)
- Inhibits glucagon release
- Slows gastric emptying
- Promotes **satiety** via CNS pathways

☐ Examples of GLP-1 RAs

Generic Name	Brand Name(s)	Dosing Frequency
Exenatide	Byetta / Bydureon	BID / Weekly
Liraglutide	Victoza / Saxenda	Daily
Dulaglutide	Trulicity	Weekly
Semaglutide	Ozempic / Wegovy	Weekly
Tirzepatide *	Mounjaro	Weekly

• Tirzepatide is a dual GLP-1/GIP receptor agonist.

□ Clinical Indications

- Type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM)
 - Reduces HbA1c with low hypoglycemia risk
- Obesity and overweight (with or without T2DM)
 - Significant weight loss, especially with semaglutide and tirzepatide
- · Cardiovascular risk reduction
 - CV benefit shown with liraglutide, dulaglutide, and semaglutide in high-risk patients

△ Common Side Effects

- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation
- Gallbladder disease
- Pancreatitis (rare but serious)

• Injection site reactions

☐ Contraindications

- Personal/family history of medullary thyroid carcinoma (MTC)
- MEN type 2 syndrome
- History of **pancreatitis** (use with caution)

☐ Ongoing Research

- Non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH)
- Cognitive and neurodegenerative disease modulation
- Multi-agonist therapies (dual/triple incretin agonists)

GLP-1 Receptor Agonists in Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension

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