### **GLP1** Receptor agonists in treatment of obesity

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#### Agenda

- Introduction.
- Multiple direct effects of GLP1 agonists on human physiology.
- SCALE Obesity and Pre-diabetes.
- SCALE Maintenance.
- STEPS RCTs.
- Conclusions.

## Introduction

- Obesity is a major global health challenge.
- A 5–10% reduction in body weight in overweight and obese improves several risk factors for cardiovascular disease.



#### **GLP-1** secretion and receptor expression



Merchenthaler *et al. J Comp Neurol* 1999;403:261–80; Baggio, Drucker. *Gastroenterology* 2007;132:2131–57; Ban *et al. Circulation* 2008;117:2340–50; Vrang *et al. Prog Neurobiol* 2010;92:442–62; Pyke *et al. Endocrinology* 2014;155:1280–90

#### Multiple effects of GLP1 agonists on human physiology.

#### **Pancreas**

Insulin secretion (glucosedependent) and beta-cell sensitivity

#### 🛉 Insulin synthesis

Glucagon secretion (glucose-dependent)



Brain Body weight: Satiety Energy intake

#### Cardiovascular system Systolic blood pressure

Liver Hepatic glucose output

1. Holst et al. Trends Mol Med 2008;14:161–168; 2. Flint et al. Adv Ther 2011;28:213–226; 3. Degn et al. Diabetes 2004;53:1187–1194; 4. Baggio, Drucker. Gastroenterology 2007;132:2131–2157; 5. Horowitz et al. Diabetes Res Clin Pract 2012;97:258–266; 6. Vilsbøll et al. BMJ 2012;344:d7771; 7. Niswender et al. Diabetes Obes Metab 2013;15:42–54; 8. Fonseca et al. Diabetes 2010;59(suppl 1):A79 (296-OR)

### **Current GLP1 R.A**

Drug	Dosing	Half-life	Duration of Action
Exenatide BID	5 to 10 mcg SC twice daily	2.4 hours	Short-acting
Lixisenatide	10 to 20 mcg SC daily	3 hours	Short-acting
Liraglutide	0.6 to 1.8 mg SC once daily	13 hours	Long-acting
Dulaglutide	0.75 to 1.5 mg SC once weekly	4.5 to 4.7 days	Long-acting
Exenatide ER	2 mg SC once weekly	Extended-release formulation	Long-acting
Semaglutide QW	0.25 mg SC weekly × 4 weeks; 0.5 mg weekly × 4 weeks; 1 mg once weekly if needed	~ 1 week	Long-acting
Semaglutide oral	3 mg once daily × 30 days; increase to 7 mg once daily	~ 1 week	Short-acting

#### **GLP1** Receptor agonists in treatment of obesity

**liraglutide** 3 mg was approved by the FDA in 2014 for the treatment of adult obesity and in 2020 for obesity in adolescents aged 12–17 years.

On 4 June 2021, FDA approved **semaglutide** 2.4 mg for chronic weight management in adults with obesity or overweight with at least one weight-related condition (such as high blood pressure or cholesterol, or T2D).

## Liraglutide



#### **SCALE** Obesity and Pre-diabetes.



#### **Trial design**



### Change in body weight (%) 0–56 weeks



### Categorical weight loss At week 56

#### Mean baseline weight: 106.2 kg



Pi-Sunyer et al. N Engl J Med 2015; 373: 11-22

#### 3 years of liraglutide versus placebo for type 2 diabetes risk reduction and weight management in individuals with prediabetes: a randomised, double-blind trial

Carel W Ie Roux, Arne Astrup, Ken Fujioka, Frank Greenway, David CW Lau, Luc Van Gaal, Rafael Violante Ortiz, John P H Wilding, Trine V Skjøth, Linda Shapiro Manning, Xavier Pi-Sunyer, for the SCALE Obesity and Prediabetes NN8022-1839 Study Group\*

#### Change in body weight (%) 0–172 weeks



# The proportion of participants who lost at least 5%, more than 10%, and more than 15% of their baseline bodyweight at week 160.



#### Participants diagnosed with T2D over time 0–172 weeks



### **SCALE** Maintenance

International Journal of Obesity (2013) 37, 1443–1451 © 2013 Macmillan Publishers Limited All rights reserved 0307-0565/13 npg

#### www.nature.com/ijo

#### **ORIGINAL ARTICLE**

Weight maintenance and additional weight loss with liraglutide after low-calorie-diet-induced weight loss: The SCALE Maintenance randomized study

This article has been corrected since online publication and an erratum is also printed in this issue TA Wadden<sup>1</sup>, P Hollander<sup>2</sup>, S Klein<sup>3</sup>, K Niswender<sup>4</sup>, V Woo<sup>5</sup>, PM Hale<sup>6</sup> and L Aronne<sup>7</sup> on behalf of the NN8022-1923 Investigators<sup>8</sup>

## **Trial design: SCALE Maintenance**

Weight maintenance with liraglutide 3.0 mg after LCD-induced weight loss



#### **Trial objective**

• Efficacy of liraglutide 3.0 mg in maintaining weight loss achieved with a LCD (1200–1400 kcal/diet) and increased physical activity (150 min/week) during run-in

#### **Key endpoints**

- Three co-primary: change in BW; maintenance of ≥5% WL from LCD run-in; ≥5% WL after randomisation
- Secondary: weight change; >10% WL; maintenance >50% and >75% of WL achieved during LCD run-in period

### Change in body weight (%)



### Individuals maintaining or regaining weight loss At week 56

#### Mean baseline weight: 99.6 kg



### Individuals achieving additional weight loss At week 56

Mean baseline weight: 99.6 kg



Wadden et al. Int J Obes (Lond) 2013;37:1443-51

### SCALE Maintenance Summary

- Following low-calorie diet-induced weight loss ≥5%, liraglutide
  3.0 mg treatment of 56 weeks:
  - Induced additional weight loss of 6.2% (6.0 kg).
  - Maintained diet-induced weight loss in **81%** of subjects.
  - Induced additional ≥5% body weight loss in 51% of subjects and an additional >10% body weight loss in 26% of subjects.
- Liraglutide 3.0 mg was well tolerated, with few withdrawals.
  - Nausea was the most common GI AE in both groups but was of mild to moderate severity and generally transient

## Semaglutide





#### **METHOD**

Double-blind trial, 1961 adults with a body-mass index of 30 or greater (≥27 in persons with ≥1 weight-related coexisting condition), who did not have Diabetes randomly assigned them, in a 2:1 ratio, to 68 weeks of treatment with once-weekly subcutaneous semaglutide (at a dose of 2.4 mg) or placebo, plus lifestyle intervention.



# The mean change in body weight from baseline to week 68 was –14.9% in the semaglutide group as compared with –2.4% with placebo

Original Investigation March 23, 2021

#### Effect of Continued Weekly Subcutaneous Semaglutide vs Placebo on Weight Loss Maintenance in Adults With Overweight or ObesityThe STEP 4 Randomized Clinical Trial

Domenica Rubino, MD<sup>1</sup>; Niclas Abrahamsson, MD<sup>2</sup>; Melanie Davies, MD<sup>3,4</sup>; et al

**Method**: Randomized clinical trial of adults with overweight or obesity, 803 participants completed a 20-week run-in of weekly treatment with subcutaneous semaglutide, 2.4 mg, with a mean weight loss of 10.6%, and were randomized to continued treatment with subcutaneous semaglutide vs placebo for an additional 48 weeks.





- With continued semaglutide, mean body weight change from week 20 to week 68 was -7.9% vs +6.9% with the switch to placebo (P < .001).</li>
- Waist circumference (-9.7 cm [95% Cl, -10.9 to -8.5 cm]), systolic blood pressure (-3.9 mm Hg [95% Cl, -5.8 to -2.0 mm Hg]), also improved with continued subcutaneous semaglutide vs placebo (all *P* < .001).</li>

#### Effect of Subcutaneous Semaglutide vs Placebo as an Adjunct to Intensive Behavioral Therapy on Body Weight in Adults With Overweight or Obesity: The STEP 3 Randomized Clinical Trial

JAMA. 2021;325(14):1403-1413. doi:10.1001/jama.2021.1831

**Method** :Randomized clinical trial that included 611 adults with overweight or obesity, 68 weeks' treatment with once-weekly subcutaneous semaglutide vs placebo, combined with intensive behavioral therapy (and a low-calorie diet for the initial 8 weeks)





- At week 68, the estimated mean body weight change from baseline was –16.0% for semaglutide vs –5.7% for placebo (P < .001).</li>
- More participants treated with semaglutide vs placebo lost at least 5% of baseline body weight (86.6% vs 47.6%, respectively; P < .001).</li>
- A higher proportion of participants in the semaglutide vs placebo group achieved weight losses of at least 10% or 15% (75.3% vs 27.0% and 55.8% vs 13.2%, respectively; P < .001)</li>

Across the trials, weight loss was **5.7–9.2%** with liraglutide 3.0mg **and 12–14.9%** with Semaglutide which **more than two third of** the individuals achieved a clinically meaningful weight loss of **at least 5%**, which is associated with a variety of health benefits and improvements in obesity-related comorbidities such as diabetes and hypertension.

GLP1 Ras , improve weight maintenance and induce additional reductions in CVD risk factors, including waist circumference, FPG,SBP and hsCRP.

Maintaining long-term weight loss is the Achilles' heel of obesity therapy