

advocate for **women's health**



urge lawmakers in Washington to expand access to obesity care today!

what you need to know

Even though obesity is a serious chronic disease with a particular impact on women, Medicare and many state Medicaid programs currently do not cover medications to treat it. However, a **new proposal would allow the federal government to provide much-needed access to obesity medications for weight loss** through Medicare or Medicaid. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is seeking public input on this proposal by **Monday, January 27th at 5pm ET**. We encourage you to submit your comments by Friday, January 17th.

how to make your voice heard

- Explain **why you support coverage** for obesity medications and, if comfortable, how these treatments have impacted or would impact you.
- Note the file code: **CMS-4208-P**.
- **Mention the section** you are commenting on: "Section 1.B.4. Part D Coverage of Anti-Obesity Medications (§ 423.100) and Application to the Medicaid Program."

important notes

- **Comments will be visible to others**, so be mindful of sharing personal information within your comment.
- **Only one comment** per individual/entity can be submitted.
- Submit comments containing **more than 5,000 characters as an attachment**.

why you should submit a comment



Your voice will make CMS **more likely to expand coverage**.



Support for this proposal would help **ensure millions of people are able to access care** options to manage obesity.



You will likely be impacted by CMS' decision, even if you do not receive health insurance through Medicare or Medicaid. CMS policies often influence coverage decisions made by private and other public health insurance plans.

[Click HERE to electronically submit your comments.](#)

sample points to include in your letter

- ✓ CMS should finalize the proposal to expand Medicare and Medicaid coverage for obesity medications.
- ✓ Obesity is recognized by leading health experts as a serious, but treatable, chronic disease.
- ✓ Obesity has serious physical, social and financial consequences, particularly for women.
- ✓ Individuals living with obesity must have access to the full range of evidence-based obesity care including medicines.
- ✓ Treating obesity can help reduce its significant health care costs for people living with the disease, for government health programs and for American businesses.
- ✓ Obesity care should be covered just as care for other chronic diseases is covered—it's only fair.

For more information and tips on crafting your letter, visit the [Obesity Action Coalition's \(OAC\) website](#).

OAC is a partner of the EveryBODY Covered campaign.

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