

FDA Approves Diabetes Drug Semaglutide for Weight Loss in Teens

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The diabetic medication semaglutide has received approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to treat teen obesity. The information comes shortly after a research revealed that semaglutide, a medication for type 2 diabetes and obesity, is equally successful in treating overweight adolescents as it is in treating overweight adults. Once a week, the medication is injected. Children as young as have been given approval to use the medication.

The body mass index (BMI) of obese teenagers who used the medication and followed lifestyle recommendations decreased by 16% over the course of 68 weeks, according to the study, which was released in The New England Journal of Medicine. Additionally, the medicine improved problems with cardiometabolic health.

Semaglutide, a glucagon-like peptide-1 analogue, is only now accepted for use in adult patients with obesity or diseases associated with obesity. It functions by reducing hunger, which lowers calorie intake and promotes weight loss.

In particular, at a time when juvenile obesity rates are on the rise, the researchers claim that the new findings offer light on a promising new therapy option for adolescents who are obese.