

# *GLP-1 Medications: From Incretin Biology to Nutrition Support*

Dr Jade Teta

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## Overview & Objectives



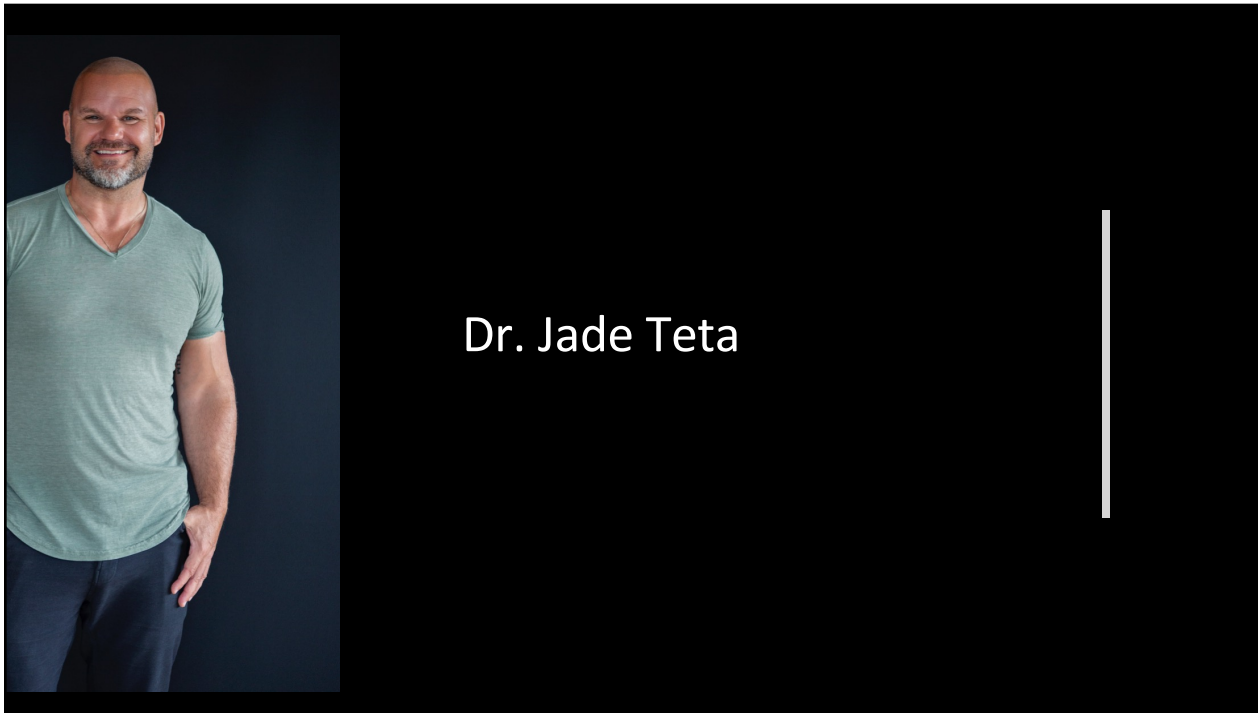
**Overview:**

- History & evolution of GLP-1-therapy
- GLP-1 Physiology
- Evidence-based nutrition and lifestyle strategies for patients using or discontinuing GLP-1 drugs.

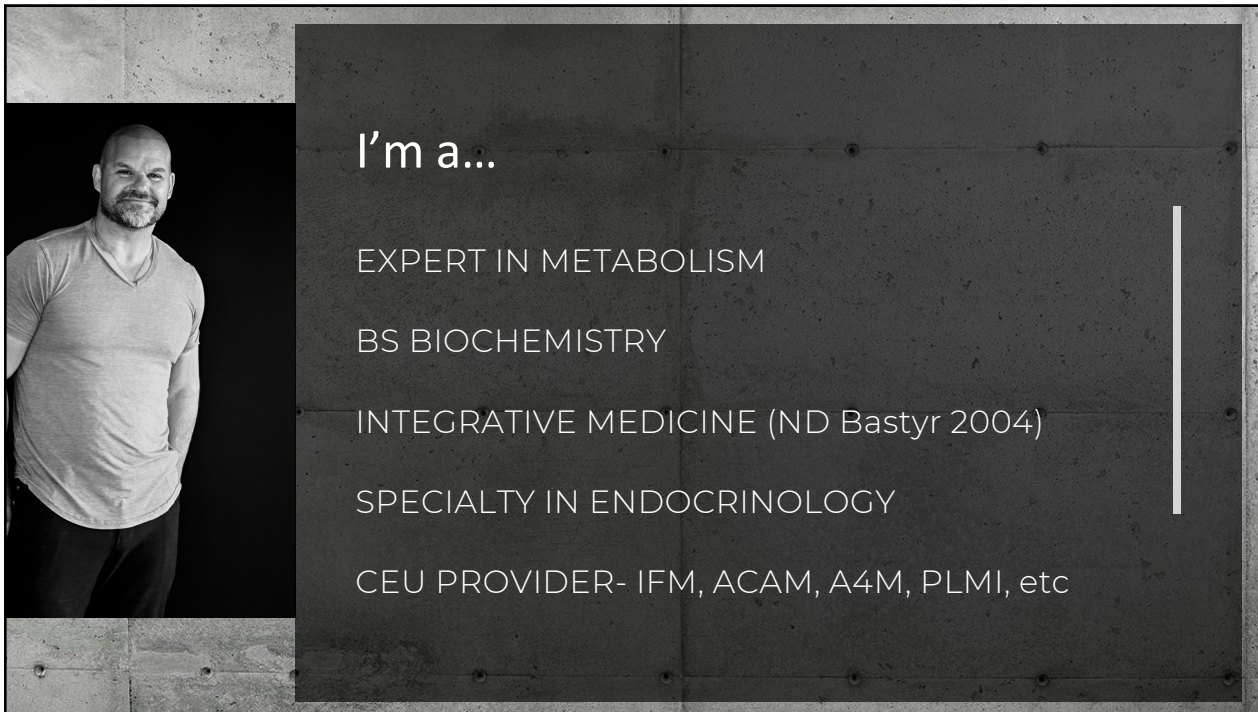
**Learning Objectives:**

- Explain the physiology of GLP-1 & GIP and their therapeutic roles.
- Identify mechanisms & medications within the GLP-1 class.
- Discuss clinical risks, microdosing concepts, and evidence in addiction medicine.
- Apply nutrition, supplement & exercise strategies to support sustainable metabolic health.

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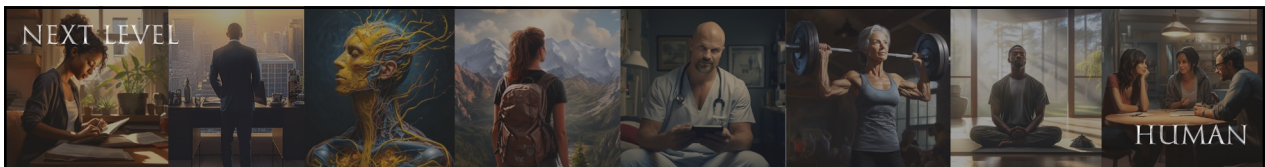


**“ I did it! I lost 107 lbs.\***

It took me 9 months and a few rounds of Jade's program, but 107.5 lbs. are gone. I have more energy, I have muscle, and I have more confidence. I LOVE this program!

*Susan Hoke, Warren, OH*

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**“ As a busy doctor, only 15 minutes 3x a week has completely changed my body\***

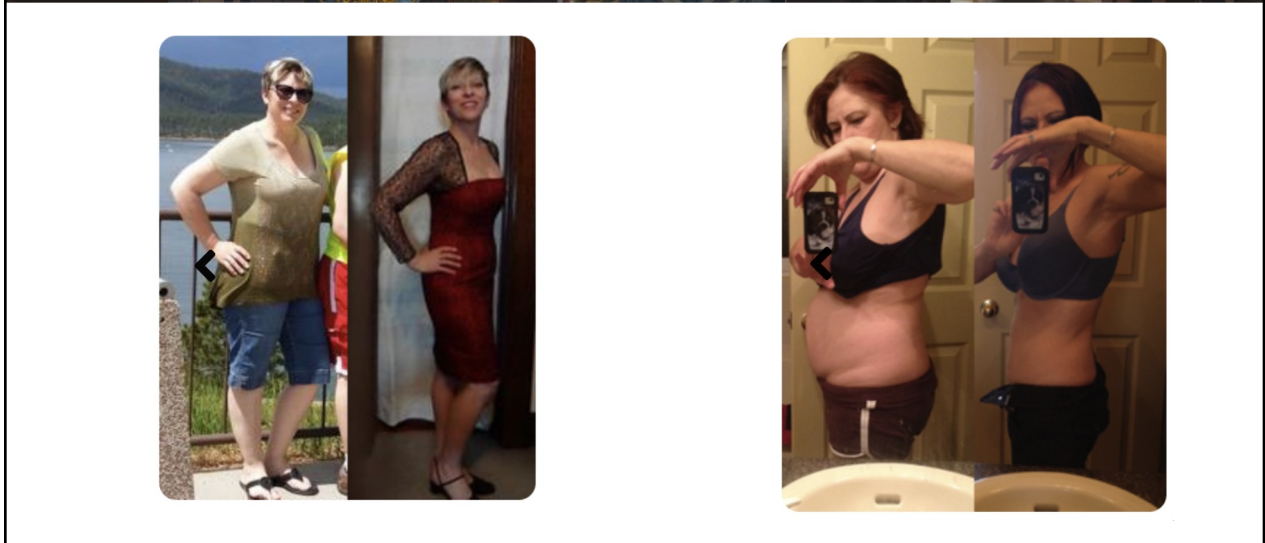
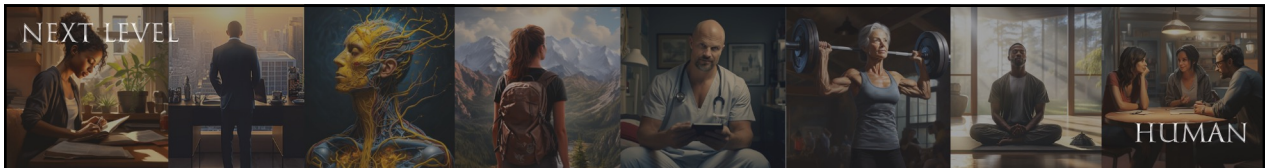
Dr. Jade's program was the ONLY solution that helped me tone up, shrink hanging skin, and fix my hormones. Losing 100lbs... I totally changed my body and I keep dropping. This program worked for me. I LOVE It. I look and feel amazing.

*Kristen McElveen MD, Sunnyside, NY*

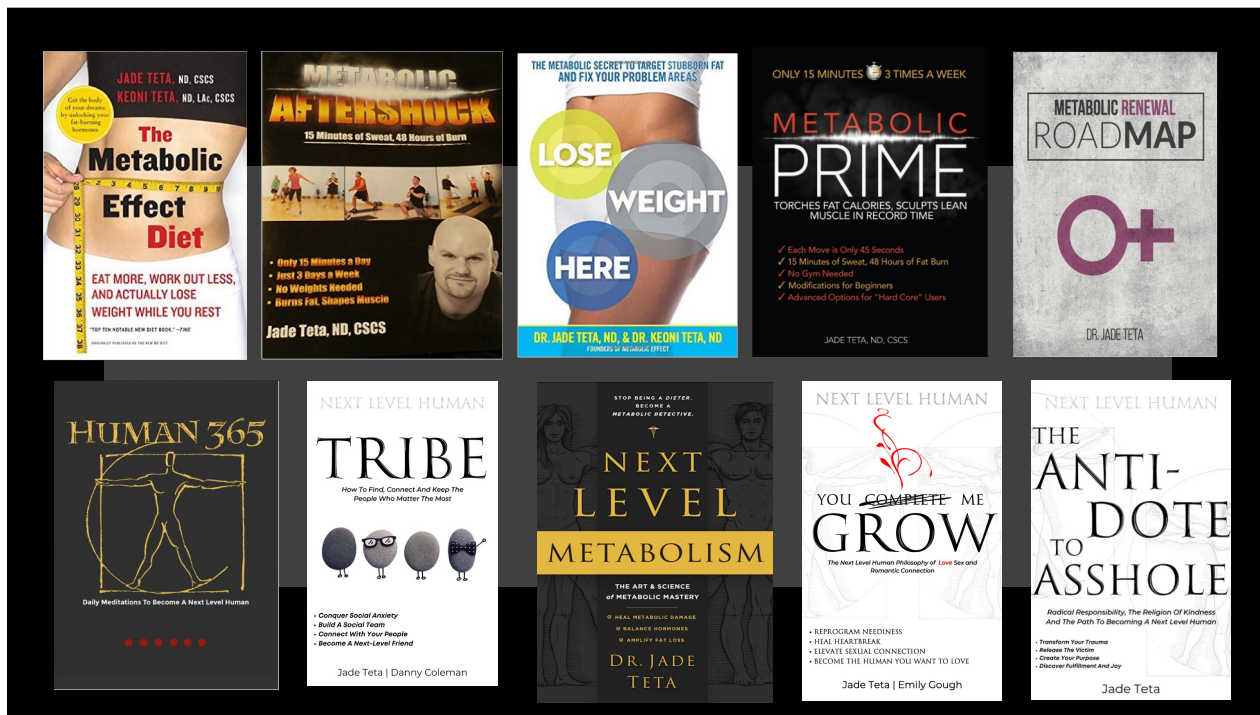
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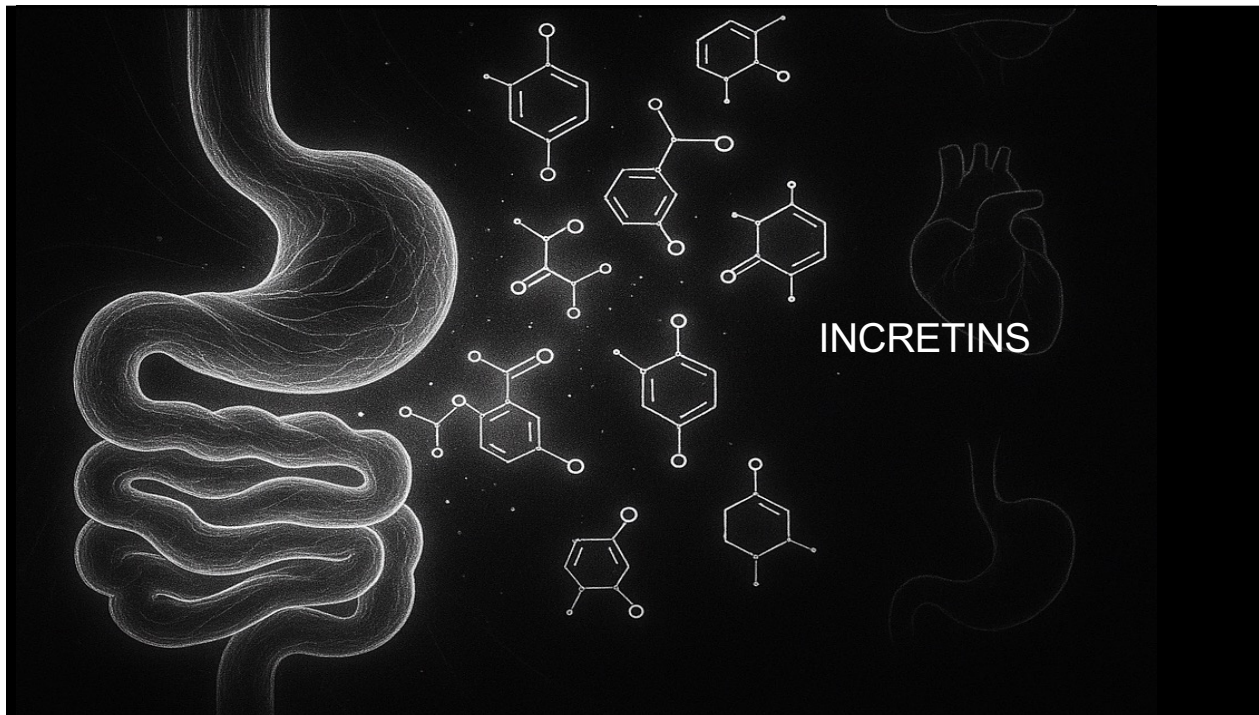
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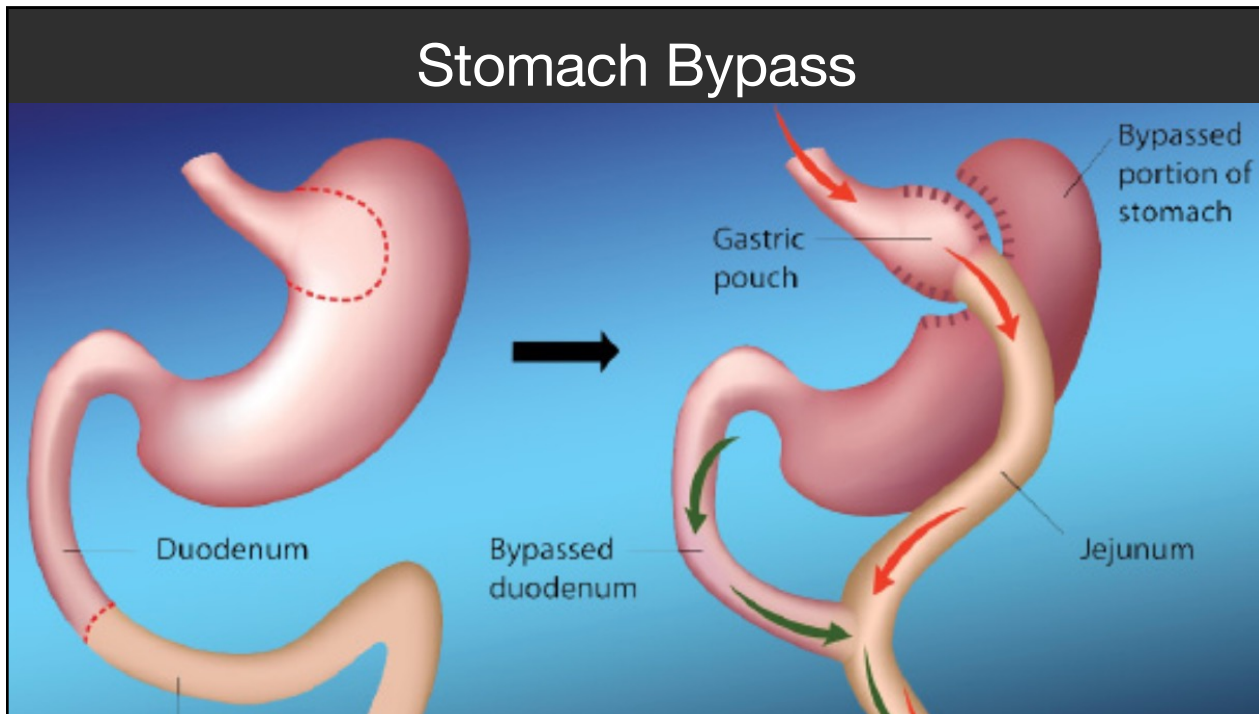
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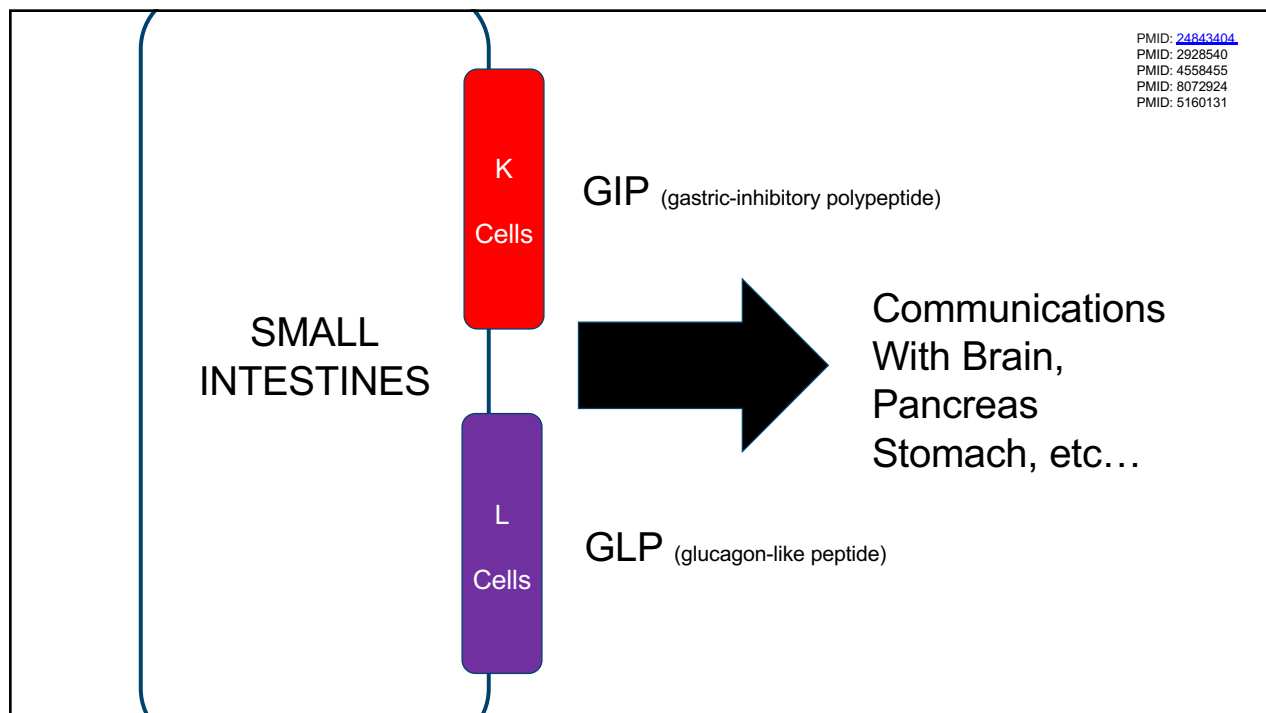


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## The History

- Named after Swiss surgeon Cesar Roux
- First person to do this type of intestinal connection
- Literally= Roux's Y- Connection
- Meant to reduce amount people could eat
- Created unexpected effects --> diabetes resolving before weight loss!!

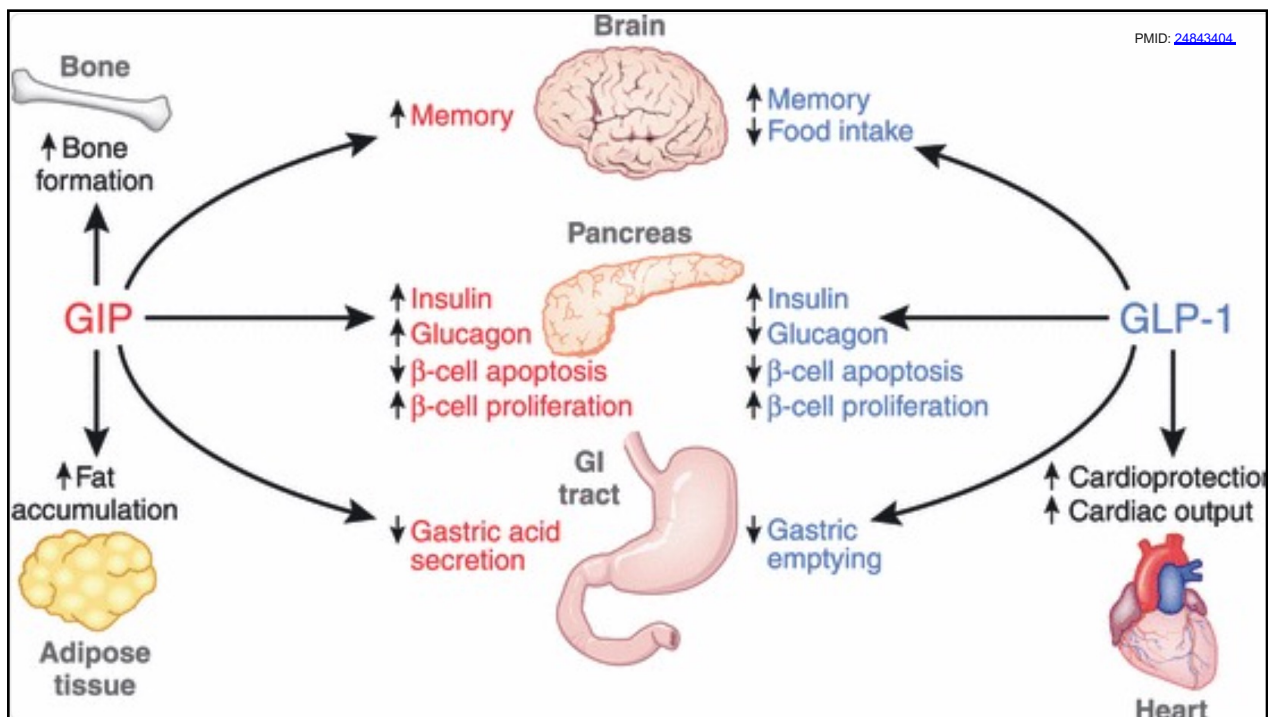
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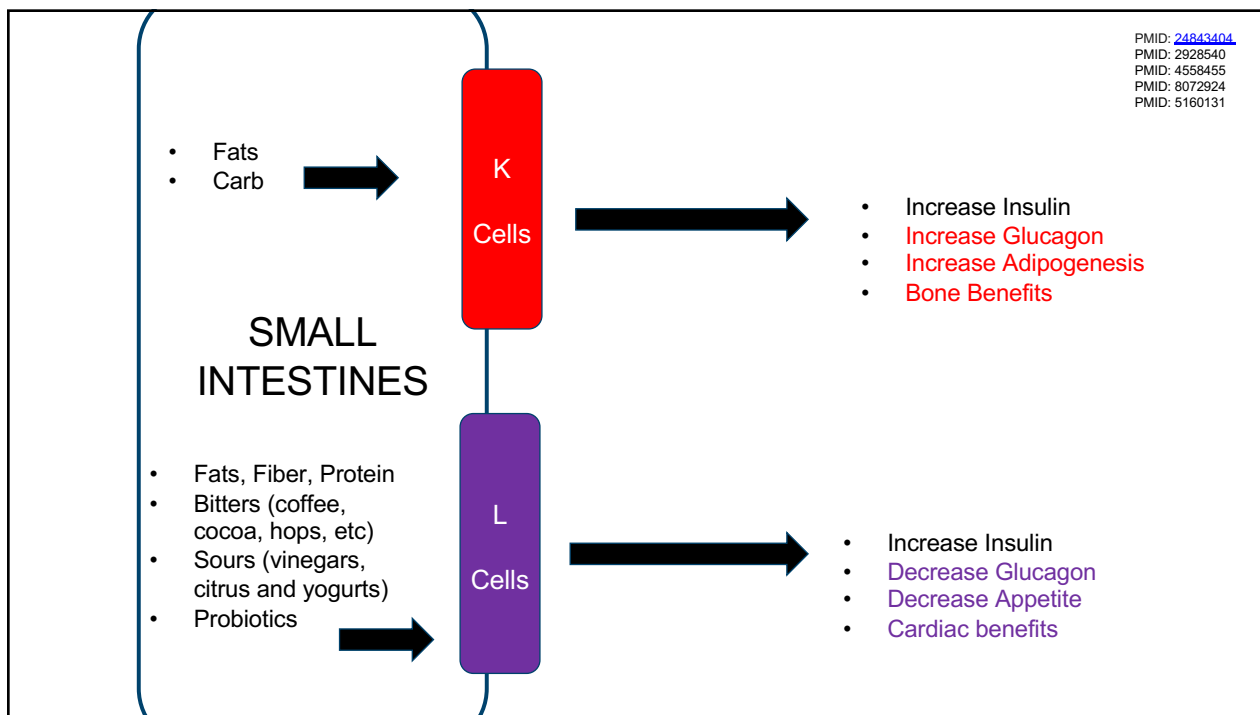


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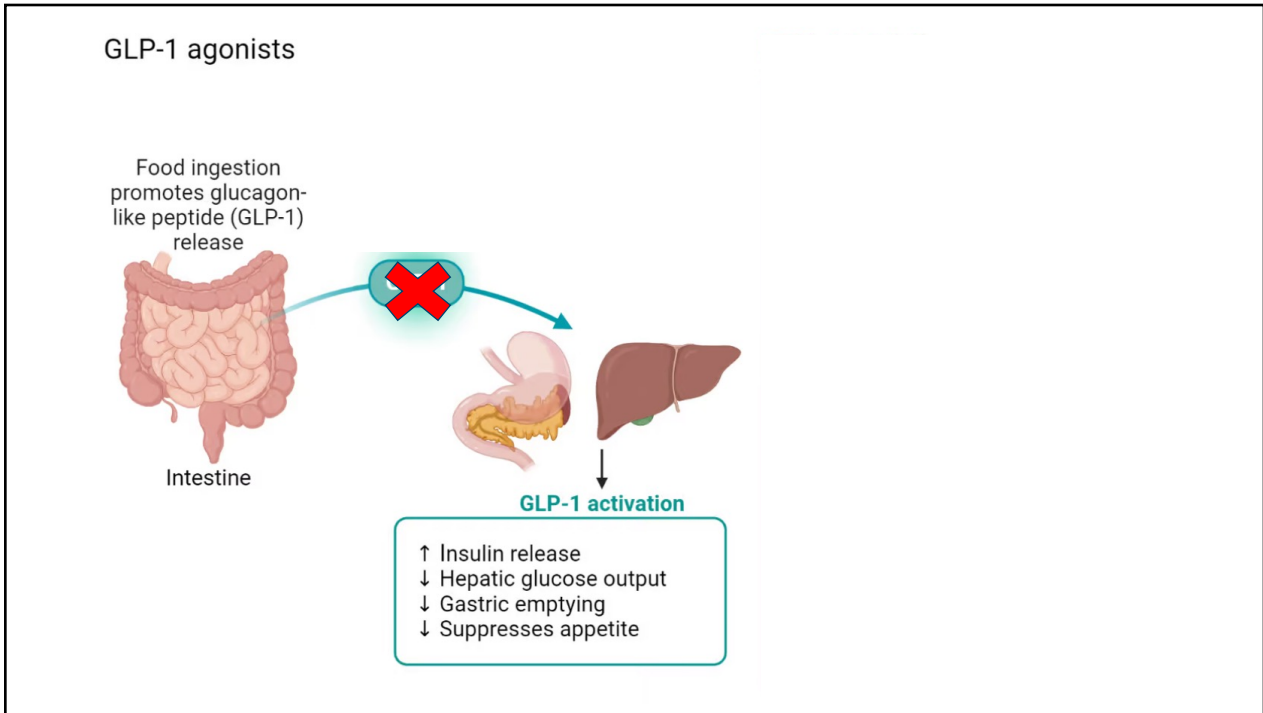




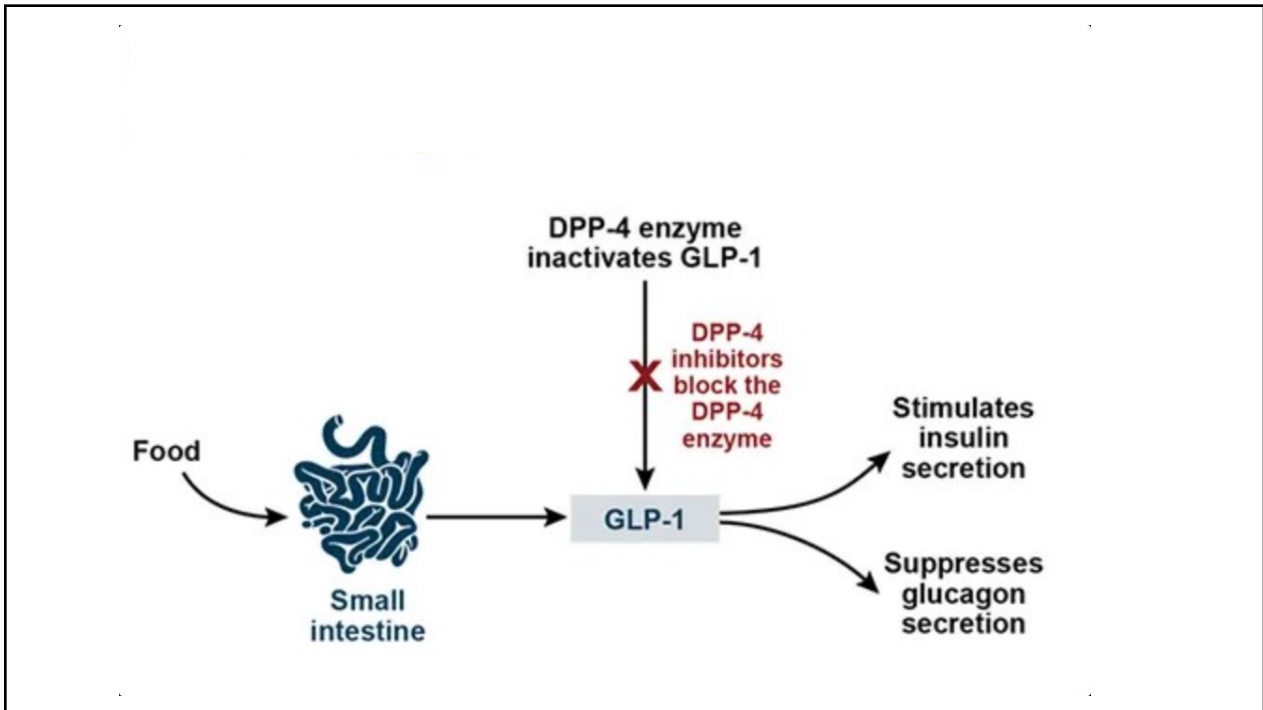
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## Some Vocabulary & Nomenclature:

<u>Drug Class</u>	<u>Drug Name</u>	<u>Brand Name</u>
GLP-1 Agonist (RA)	Semaglutide	Ozempic
Dual Agonist	Tirzepatide	Mounjaro/Zepbound
Triple Agonist	Retatrutide	N/A
DDP-4 Inhibitor	Sitagliptin	Januvia

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Drug Class	Mechanism/Targets	Generic Name(s)	Brand Name(s)	Key Features/Notes	
GLP-1 Receptor Agonists (short-acting)	Activates GLP-1 receptor; enhances insulin; slows gastric emptying	Exenatide, Lixisenatide	Byetta, Bydureon, Lyxumia	Exenatide from exendin-4; Lixisenatide is a modified synthetic analog	
GLP-1 Receptor Agonists (long-acting)	Activates GLP-1 receptor; extended via fatty-acid or protein fusion	Liraglutide, Semaglutide, Dulaglutide, Albiglutide	Victoza, Ozempic, Wegovy, Trulicity, Tanzeum (withdrawn)	Human GLP-1 analogs; longer half-life for once-daily/weekly dosing	
Dual GLP-1/GIP Agonists	Simultaneous GLP-1 and GIP receptor activation for additive/synergistic incretin effect	Tirzepatide (approved), Maritide (pipeline)	Mounjaro (tirzepatide)	Enhances both insulin and satiety; superior metabolic outcomes	
Triple GLP-1/GIP/GCGR (Oxyntomodulin-mimetics, trials)	GLP-1, GIP, and glucagon/oxyntomodulin receptor activation (triple incretin action)	Retatrutide, Pemvidutide, SAR441255 (trials)	Retatrutide, Pemvidutide	Show best-in-class weight/fat loss; in clinical development	**G-protein-coupled receptor (GPCR) or Glucagon receptor (GCGR) found mainly in the liver, adipose tissue, heart, kidney, and the brain
DPP-4 Inhibitors	Inhibits DPP-4 enzyme—protects native GLP-1 and GIP from degradation	Sitagliptin, Saxagliptin, Linagliptin, Alogliptin,	Januvia, Onglyza, Tradjenta, Nesina, Galvus	Oral, well-tolerated; less potent for weight loss than injectables	

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Drug (GLP-1 Agonist)	Route	Approved Indication	Typical A1c Reduction	Average Weight Loss	Notes (CV/Compliance/Other)
Rybelsus (semaglutide)	Oral Daily	Type 2 diabetes (pending obesity)	0.6–1.4%	3–5 kg avg (up to ~11–15%*)	First and only oral GLP-1; CV benefit; easier for needle-averse <a href="#">ema.europa +3</a>
Ozempic (semaglutide)	Weekly Injection	Type 2 diabetes	1.3–1.7%	6–9 kg avg (up to 17%*)	Superior average efficacy; proven CV benefit; self-injection weekly <a href="#">pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih +2</a>
Wegovy (semaglutide)	Weekly Injection	Chronic weight management	1.5–1.8% (if diabetic)	12–15% body weight	Highest mean weight loss among GLP-1 drugs; weekly injectable; approved for obesity <a href="#">bmj +1</a>
Other injectables (Trulicity, Victoza, Byetta)	Daily/weekly Injection	T2D ± weight	0.8–1.5%	4–6 kg avg	Generally lower efficacy than semaglutide; adherence varies by injection type <a href="#">pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih +1</a>

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## DOSING MATTERS FOR WEIGHT LOSS

Weight loss may not occur at all at lower doses

Drug/Agent	Start Dose	Therapeutic	Low Dose	Weight Loss
Exenatide	5 mcg BID (Byetta)	10 mcg BID (Byetta)	2.5 mcg BID or less	After 8-12 weeks
Liraglutide (Victoza/Wegovy)	0.6 mg daily	2.4 mg weekly (Wegovy)	0.3-0.6 mg	After 8-12 weeks
Semaglutide (Ozempic/Wegovy/Rybelsus)	0.25 mg weekly (Ozempic)	2 mg weekly (Ozempic), 2.4 mg weekly (Wegovy)	0.1-0.25 mg weekly	After 4-8 weeks (Wegovy), plateau at 16 weeks+
Dulaglutide (Trulicity)	0.75 mg weekly	4.5 mg weekly	0.25-0.5 mg weekly	After 8-12 weeks
Tirzepatide (Mounjaro)	2.5 mg weekly	10-15 mg weekly	1.5-2.5 mg weekly	After 4-8 weeks, plateau by 14-16 weeks
DPP-4 Inhibitors	Sitagliptin 100 mg daily	100 mg daily	50 mg or less	Minimal; not significant for weight loss

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## Average Weight Loss & Regain

Drug/Class	Avg. Weight Loss	Typical Timeline	% Body Weight Lost	Recidivism (Weight Regain)	Onset/Timing of Regain
Semaglutide (Ozempic/Wegovy)	30-50 lbs (15-22 kg)	9-15 months	12-18%	Regains ~66% within 1 yr of stopping	Begins 2-5 months post-discontinuation
Liraglutide (Saxenda/Victoza)	15-25 lbs (7-12 kg)	6-12 months	6-10%	Regains ~40-60% in 6-12 months	Begins 2-4 months post-discontinuation
Tirzepatide (Mounjaro)	35-60 lbs (16-27 kg)	12-18 months	16-21%	Regain rates mirror semaglutide but longer trials pending	Onset after 2-5 months off drug
Rybelsus (oral semaglutide)	10-22 lbs (5-10 kg)	6-12 months	5-10%	Regains ~50-60% in 1 yr	Data limited; seen by 4-6 months off drug
General GLP-1 class (real-world)	5-10 lbs (2-5 kg) loss at 8-12 weeks, 15-20% at 72 weeks in best responders	2-15 months	5-20%	Most see regain within 1 year after stopping; up to two-thirds in meta-analysis	Usually begins within 2-5 months post-medication

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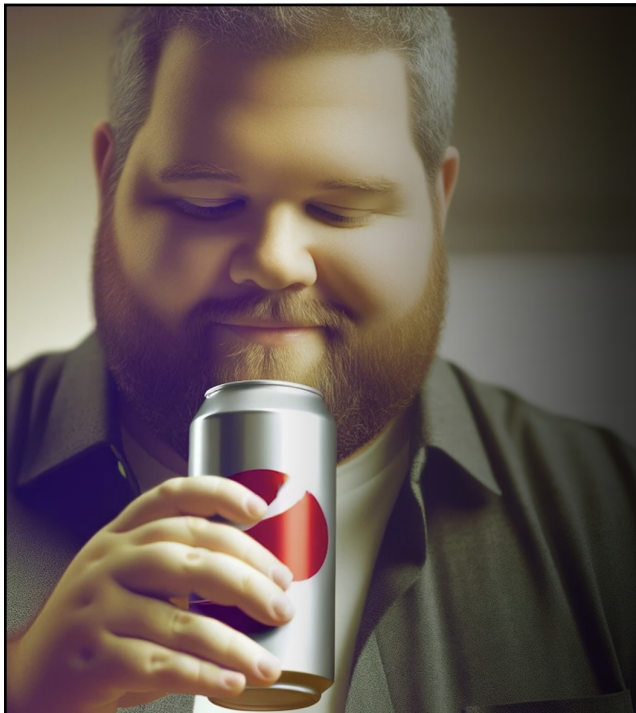
## Side Effects?



### What are the common side effects?:

- Nausea (most common)
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Constipation
- Abdominal pain, bloating, heartburn
- Excessive appetite suppression
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Dizziness
- Injection site irritation


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More Serious Side Effects

- Pancreatitis
- Gallbladder disease (stones, cholecystitis)
- Gastroparesis
- Hypoglycemia
- Acute Kidney Injury (with dehydration)
- Intestinal obstruction
- Retinopathy
- Thyroid Cancer\*\*\*

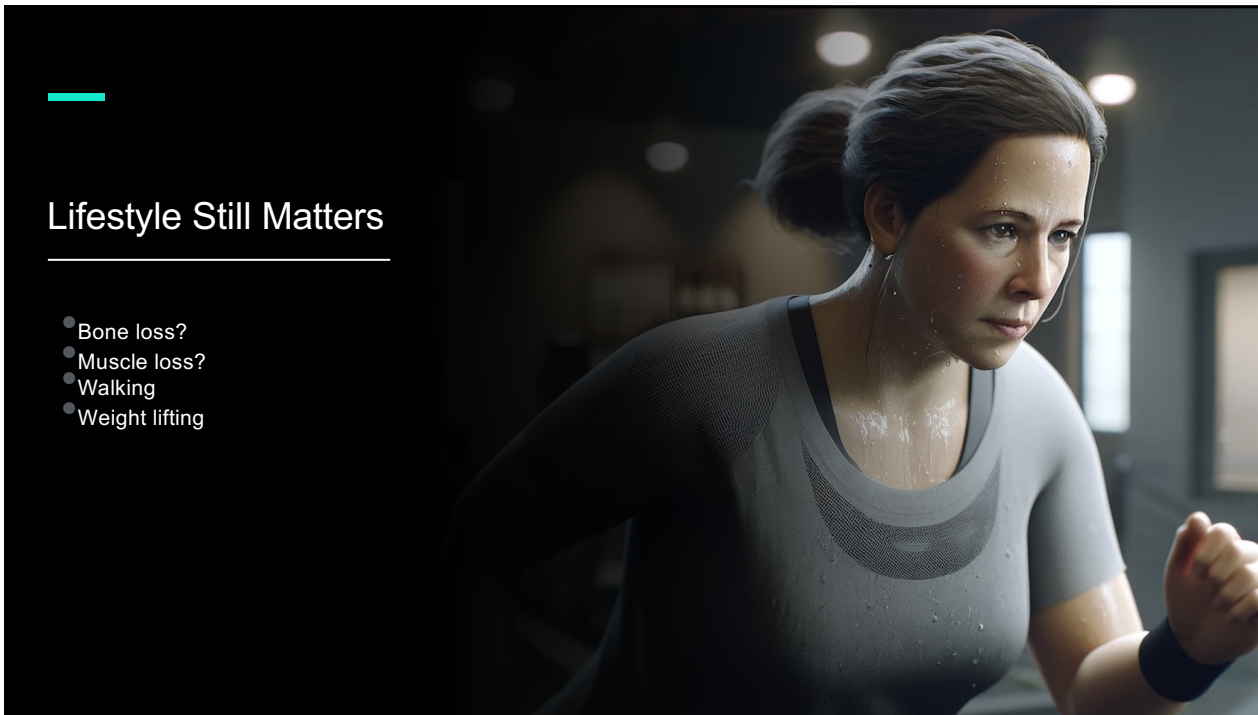
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Does it last?

- 4-8% stop due to side effects
- 66% rebound weight gain after stopping

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## Lifestyle Still Matters

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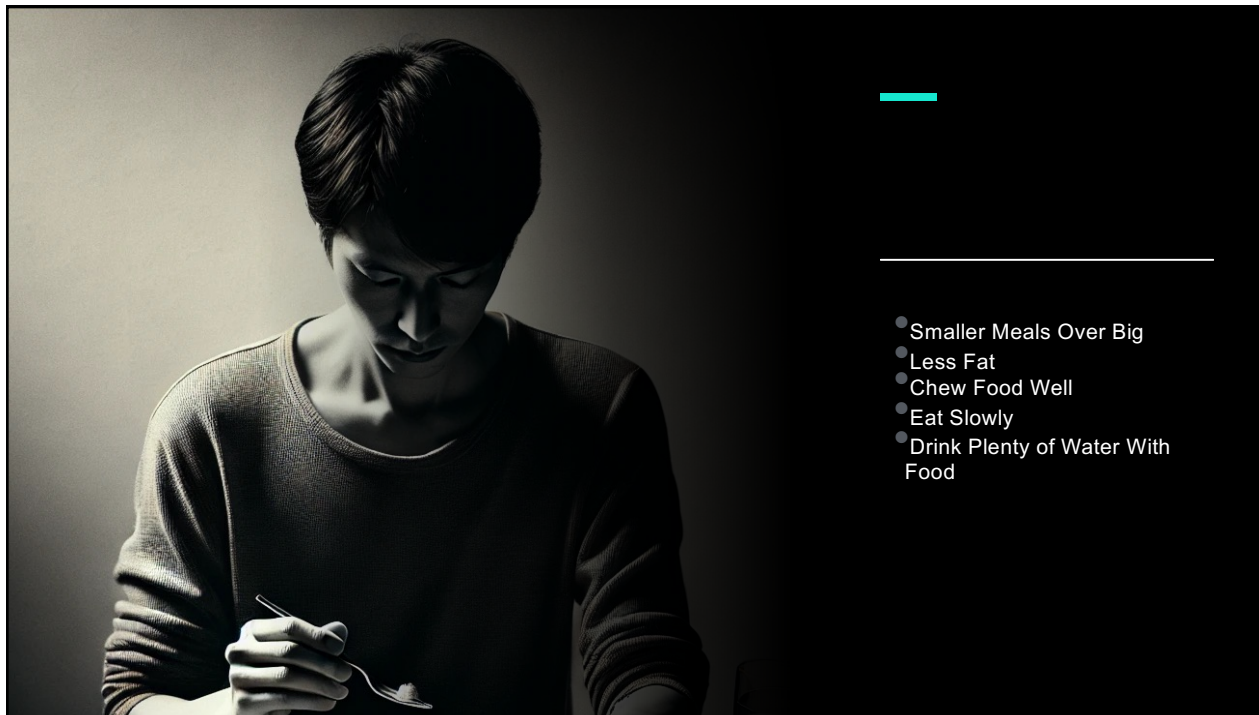
- Bone loss?
- Muscle loss?
- Walking
- Weight lifting

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- 
- For Nausea?
  - Peel, Cut, Boil
  - Drink as tea
  - Real ginger candy

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Microdosing?



Decorative elements: zigzag lines in the top left, a teal circle in the top right, and diagonal lines in the bottom right.

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Microdosing?



.25 to 2mg Semaglutide      .1 to .25mg Semaglutide

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Think of it as a “metabolic brace”



Decorative elements include a white zigzag line on the left, a white circle, and white diagonal lines on the right.

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Mental Emotional Effect?

CAN IT RESET & SUPPRESSES THE PHYSIOLOGICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL URGES TO EAT?



Decorative elements include a white zigzag line, a white circle, and a white dotted pattern on the right.

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Summary Table: Key Brain Regions Influenced by GLP-1R Agonists in Addiction

Region	Role	Addictive Impact
Ventral tegmental area (VTA)	Dopamine "reward" signaling	Suppresses drug reinforcement, craving
Nucleus accumbens (NAc)	Motivation/reward/focus	Reduces drug and food "wanting"
Amygdala	Emotion, associative memory	Modulates stress, relapse, cue reactivity
Habenula	Aversion, negative valence	Reduces negative affect/cue-induced craving
Prefrontal cortex	Executive function, goal setting	Helps inhibit craving/impulsivity
Hypothalamus/Brainstem	Satiety, interoception	Links metabolic and reward signals

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# JAMA Psychiatry

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**Original Investigation** 🔒

## Once-Weekly Semaglutide in Adults With Alcohol Use Disorder

### A Randomized Clinical Trial

Christian S. Hendershot, PhD<sup>1,2,3</sup>; Michael P. Bremner, MA<sup>3,4</sup>; Michael B. Paladino, BS<sup>3,4</sup>; [et al](#)

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**JAMA Psychiatry**  
**Published Online: February 12, 2025**  
 2025;82;(4):395-405.  
 doi:10.1001/jamapsychiatry.2024.4789


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### Key Points

**Question** Does the glucagon-like peptide 1 (GLP-1) receptor agonist semaglutide reduce alcohol consumption and craving in adults with alcohol use disorder (AUD)?

**Findings** In this randomized clinical trial, relative to placebo, low-dose semaglutide reduced the amount of alcohol consumed during a posttreatment laboratory self-administration procedure. Over 9 weeks of treatment, semaglutide led to reductions in some but not all measures

Advertisement



**Screening for Osteoporosis**

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EMOTIONAL SOOTHING?

SOME USE FOOD TO EMOTIONALLY SOOTHE

IT'S LIKE ADDICTION!



The image shows a man with curly hair and a beard, wearing a grey hoodie, sitting at a table in a high-rise apartment. He is eating a pizza. The table is set with various food items, including a pizza, a bottle of beer, and some condiments. In the background, a large window offers a panoramic view of a city skyline at sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is relaxed and indulgent.

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FOOD ADDICTION?

THE HEDONIC HIJACK IS VERY REAL!!



The image shows a woman with curly hair and sunglasses, wearing a grey t-shirt, sitting at a table in a dimly lit room. She is eating a pizza. The table is set with various food items, including a pizza, a bottle of beer, and some condiments. In the background, there is a window with blinds and some framed pictures on the wall. The overall mood is casual and indulgent.

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## PHYSIOLOGICAL URGES?

WE NEED SOMETHING TO CONTROL PHYSIOLOGICAL URGES



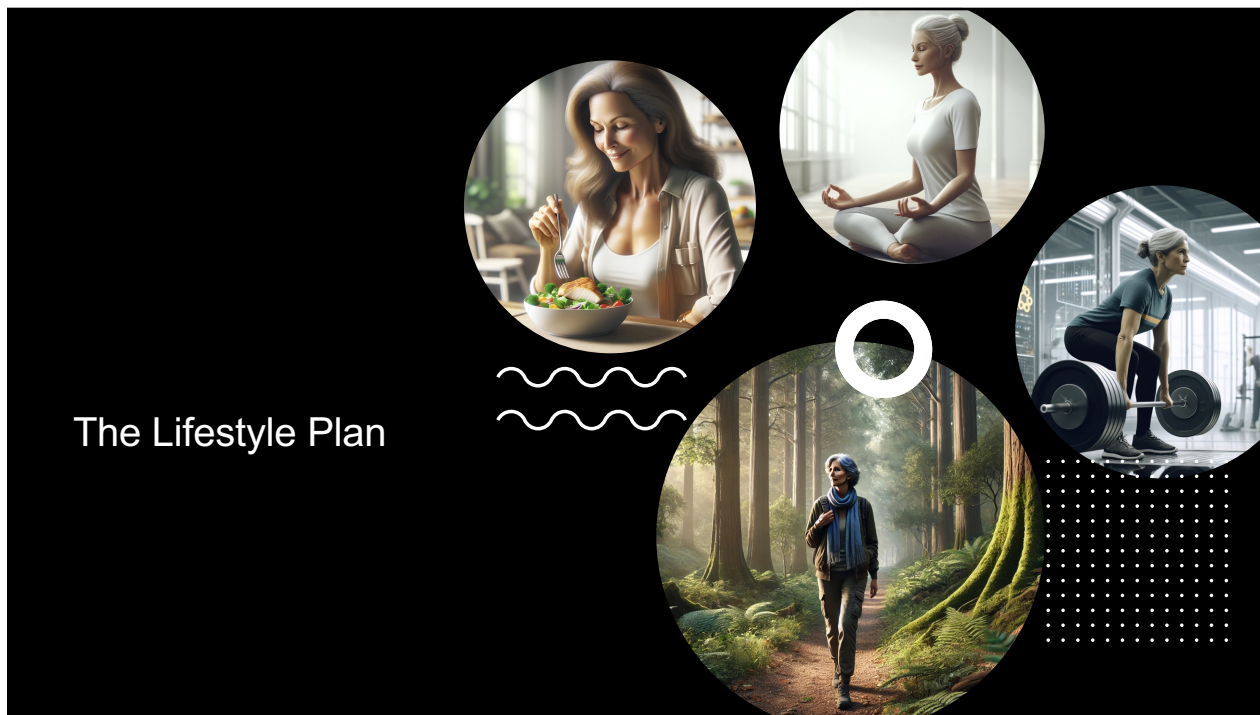
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## MINDFULNESS

Perhaps combining this with GLP-1 could make a big difference?



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Stay Hydrated

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Stay Hydrated

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Multi-vitamin  
Protein  
Fish Oil

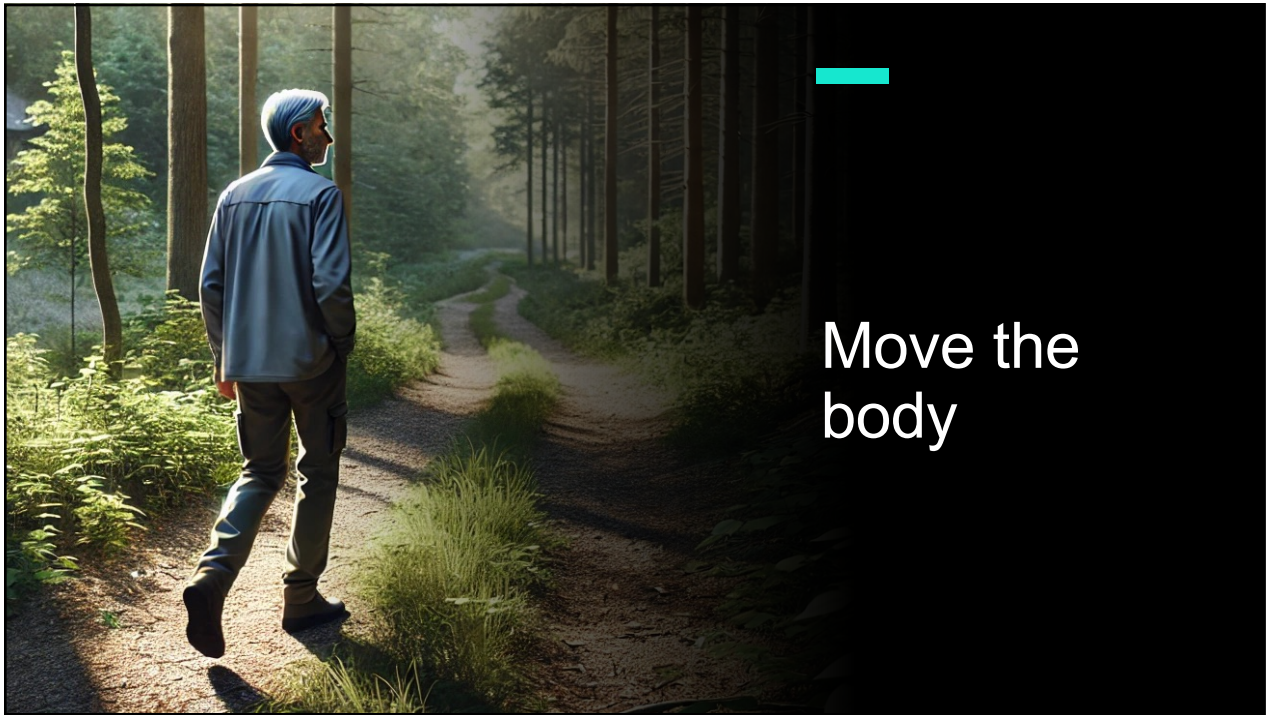
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Move  
&  
Sweat

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# What It Looks Like

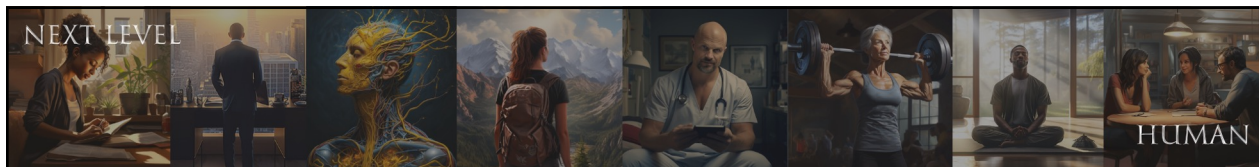


 GLP-1

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						
						
						
						

-  Workouts
-  Diet (high fiber, high protein)
-  Walking

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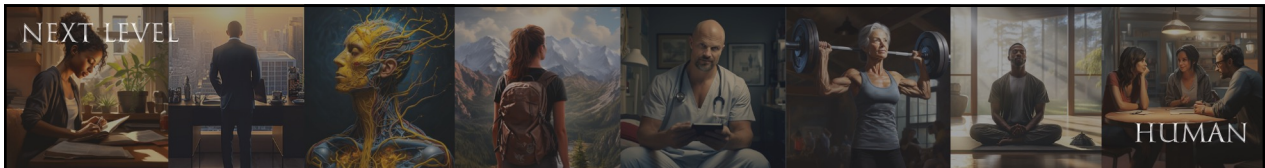


*How To Come Off?*

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QUESTIONS?

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