

UK Prescription Weight Loss Medications Market Size, Share & Trends Analysis Report By Product (Incretin-Based Therapies For Weight Management), By Route Of Administration (Injectable, Oral), By Prescribing Channel, And Segment Forecasts, 2026 - 2033

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Abstracts

Summary

The UK prescription weight loss medications market size was estimated at USD 421.07 million in 2025 and is projected to reach USD 2,485.23 million by 2033, growing at a CAGR of 24.85% from 2026 to 2033. Growth is driven by rising obesity prevalence, increasing clinical adoption of incretin-based therapies, expanding access through private and digital prescribing channels, and growing patient awareness.

The UK prescription weight loss medications market is currently influenced by several key factors. The prevalence of obesity and overweight individuals in the country is a significant driver, as data from March 2025 indicate that approximately 64% of adults in England are classified as overweight or obese, with 29% meeting the criteria for obesity (BMI =30 kg/m²).

This large and persistent portion of the population creates a steady demand for weight-management solutions, particularly prescription-based treatments, as individuals increasingly seek alternatives to lifestyle changes such as diet and exercise. Obesity is often linked to various comorbidities such as type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and hypertension, further elevating the need for effective pharmacological treatments. As the population dealing with these health issues continues to grow, the demand for prescription weight loss medications is expected to rise, creating a sustainable market base for these treatments.

Another important factor is the shift in the regulatory and public-health environment, which has facilitated the adoption of pharmacological solutions. Notably, in 2023, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) approved Semaglutide (Wegovy) for managing obesity, and in late 2024, it extended approval to Tirzepatide (Mounjaro). These regulatory endorsements have made obesity treatment more accessible under the public healthcare system. As of early 2025, approximately 344,927 patients in England received licensed weight-loss medications under the NHS, marking a significant step toward integrating pharmacological treatments into routine healthcare. This trend is expected to continue as NICE guidelines evolve and more medications are approved for obesity management. The formal recognition of obesity as a medical condition that requires pharmacological intervention is not only improving access but also instilling confidence among patients and healthcare providers in the long-term use of these drugs.

The rapid uptake of effective medications, particularly GLP-1 receptor agonists like Semaglutide and Tirzepatide, has shifted the competitive landscape in the UK. These medications offer significant weight loss results, with clinical trials demonstrating body weight reductions of 15-20% when combined with lifestyle interventions. By 2025, prescribing volumes for GLP-1-based weight-loss medications surpassed those of older treatments, such as Orlistat, indicating a clear preference for these more effective options. However, uptake within the public healthcare system remains limited due to eligibility criteria and phased rollout. Consequently, a large number of patients are turning to private healthcare providers to access these medications. This has led to the growth of the private sector, where demand for weight-loss medications is high, driven by patients who seek effective treatments even when they do not meet NHS eligibility thresholds. This growing private sector represents a significant market opportunity, especially as more individuals opt to pay for faster access to these treatments, reflecting the evolving demand for weight-loss solutions in the UK.

UK Prescription Weight Loss Medications Market Report Segmentation

This report forecasts revenue growth at country level and provides an analysis of the latest industry trends in each of the sub-segments from 2021 to 2033. For this study, Grand View Research has segmented the UK prescription weight loss medications market report based on product, route of administration, and prescribing channel:

Product Outlook (Revenue, USD Million, 2021 - 2033)

Incretin-Based Therapies for Weight Management

Approved for Weight Loss

Semaglutide (Wegovy)

Liraglutide (Saxenda)

Approved for Other Indications but Used Off-Label for Weight Loss

Semaglutide (Ozempic)

Tirzepatide (Mounjaro)

Dulaglutide (Trulicity)

oral semaglutide (Rybelsus)

Oral GLP-1 & Incretin Therapies (Expected Market Entry)

Oral Semaglutide (50 mg obesity dose) - expected 2026-2027

Orforglipron (non-peptide oral GLP-1 RA) - expected 2027-2028

Amycretin (oral GLP-1 analog) - pipeline (forecast scenario)

Dual / Multi-Agonists (High-Impact Future Therapies)

Tirzepatide (Zepbound) - Injectable (obesity approved US; UK expected)

Retatrutide - Injectable (GLP 1/GIP/Glucagon triple agonist)

Cagrisema (Cagrilintide + Semaglutide) - Injectable

Survodutide (BI 456906) - Injectable (GLP 1/Glucagon dual agonist)

Pemvidutide - Injectable (GLP-1/Glucagon)

Non-Incretin Prescription Weight Loss Agents (Approved + generics + centrally

acting agents)

Lipase Inhibitors (Orlistat)

Centrally Acting Agents (Bupropion/Naltrexone (Mysimba) - licensed in EU/UK for WL)

Route Of Administration Outlook (Revenue, USD Million, 2021 - 2033)

Injectable Weight Loss Medications

Oral Weight Loss Medications

Prescribing Channel Outlook (Revenue, USD Million, 2021 - 2033)

Public (NHS)

NHS Primary Care Prescriptions

NHS Specialist / Hospital Prescriptions

Private

Private (In-clinic) Prescriptions

Digital / Online Prescribing Platforms

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