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South & Central America Anti-Obesity Drugs Market Size and Forecast (2021 - 2031)

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Abstracts

The South & Central America Anti-Obesity Drugs Market is projected to grow significantly, reaching approximately US$ 1,094.6 million by 2031, up from US$ 248.9 million in 2024, with an estimated compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 25.4% from 2025 to 2031.

Executive Summary and Market Analysis

The anti-obesity drugs market in South & Central America is divided into key regions: Brazil, Argentina, and the Rest of South & Central America. The market is expanding due to increasing obesity rates, heightened health awareness, and improved access to healthcare services. Factors such as sedentary lifestyles and changing dietary habits have led to a rise in obesity, prompting governments and health organizations to focus on weight management initiatives. Urbanization and economic growth have enhanced healthcare infrastructure and the availability of pharmaceutical products. Public health campaigns and media efforts have also contributed to reducing the stigma associated with obesity, encouraging more individuals to seek medical treatment. The introduction of innovative anti-obesity drugs, particularly GLP-1 receptor agonists, has further increased interest among patients and confidence among healthcare providers. Additionally, the rise of medical tourism in certain countries is making the region a destination for affordable treatments. These elements are collectively driving market growth and attracting investments from major pharmaceutical companies eager to meet the rising demand.

Strategic Insights

Market Segmentation Analysis

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By Type: The market is categorized into Prescription Drugs and OTC Drugs, with Prescription Drugs holding the largest market share in 2024.

By Mechanism of Action: Segmented into Centrally Acting Drugs, Peripherally Acting Drugs, and Others, with Centrally Acting Drugs leading in market share in 2024.

By Drug Class: Includes GLP-1 Agonists, Lipase Inhibitors, MC4R Agonists, and Others, where GLP-1 Agonists dominated the market in 2024.

By GLP-1 Agonist: Further divided into Semaglutide, Liraglutide, and Tirzepatide (Zepbound), with Semaglutide having the largest share in 2024.

By Application: Categories include Appetite Suppression, Inhibition of Fat Absorption, Metabolic Enhancement, and Combination, with Appetite Suppression leading in 2024.

By Route of Administration: The market is segmented into Oral and Parenteral, with Oral being the most prevalent in 2024.

By Distribution Channel: Includes Hospital Pharmacies, Online Channels, and Retail Pharmacies, with Hospital Pharmacies holding the largest share in 2024.

Market Outlook

Emerging economies present significant opportunities for the anti-obesity drugs market, driven by rising obesity rates linked to urbanization and lifestyle changes. The enhancement of healthcare infrastructure and increased awareness of obesity-related health risks are fueling demand for effective treatments. Pharmaceutical companies are investing in these markets to address the unmet need for weight management solutions. Brazil, for instance, is improving its healthcare infrastructure and obesity management programs, creating a favorable environment for new anti-obesity medications. In April 2024, Brazil inaugurated a laboratory in Hortol?ndia, S?o Paulo, dedicated to producing diabetes and obesity medications, including liraglutide and semaglutide, with an investment of R$60 million (~US$ 10.93 million).

While initial access to anti-obesity medications may be limited to private markets and out-of-pocket payments, future insurance coverage and the introduction of generic versions in middle-income countries are expected to enhance accessibility. The increasing prevalence of obesity in emerging economies, combined with expanding healthcare infrastructure and growing awareness, is driving demand for anti-obesity drugs. Government initiatives and pharmaceutical investments are fostering a conducive environment for market growth, positioning emerging markets as key areas for expansion in the South & Central America anti-obesity drugs market.

Country Insights

The South & Central America Anti-Obesity Drugs Market is segmented by country into Brazil, Argentina, and the Rest of South & Central America, with the Rest of South & Central America holding the largest share in 2024. Notably, Chile, Colombia, Peru, and Bolivia are significant players in this market. Chile has the highest obesity rate in South America, with approximately 42% of adults classified as obese, projected to affect 14 million Chileans in the next five years. The rise in obesity is largely attributed to the availability of ultra-processed foods and sedentary lifestyles, leading to increased health issues such as type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular diseases.

Colombia has made significant healthcare reforms since the 1990s, resulting in approximately 97% of the population being covered under the social and health security system by 2023, facilitating greater access to obesity treatments and contributing to market growth.

Company Profiles

Key players in the South & Central America Anti-Obesity Drugs Market include GSK Plc, F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd, Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd, Novo Nordisk AS, Eli Lilly and Co, Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd, VIVUS LLC, Currax Pharmaceuticals LLC, AdvaCare Pharma USA LLC, and Rhythm Pharmaceuticals Inc. These companies are employing strategies such as expansion, product innovation, and mergers and acquisitions to enhance their market presence and offer innovative products.

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