

Coverage Request for Anti-Obesity Medication

What you can do to help patients gain access

Anti-obesity medication coverage is different from what you may be used to; an employer decides whether or not to opt in to add the additional coverage to its base plan. In order to avoid submitting a prior authorization for a patient who does not have coverage, your office can determine whether a patient is covered via the [NovoCare® for Obesity benefits verification tool](#).

If a patient's insurance plan doesn't include anti-obesity medication, there are still options. You can help appropriate patients gain access by providing coverage request documentation that your patients can bring to their human resources (HR) department. This includes a professional letter affirming that your patient may benefit from anti-obesity medication. The following sample coverage request letter may be used as a guide for what you may write to a patient's HR department. Once the letter is completed, your patient will need to deliver it to his or her employer.

SAMPLE COVERAGE REQUEST LETTER

► *The example below is for your reference only. When drafting a coverage request letter, it should be written on your letterhead. This form should **NOT** be used as the coverage request letter.*

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter on behalf of my patient, John Doe, to express a concern. My patient is in need of important anti-obesity medication that is currently not covered by your insurance plan.

It is well recognized that obesity is a chronic illness associated with many related diseases, such as diabetes and hypertension. Obesity deserves the same treatment and attention as any other chronic illness. I believe John Doe is an ideal candidate for anti-obesity medication and would benefit from treatment. Please contact your health plan or pharmacy benefit manager to pursue coverage for either this individual employee or for the company at large.

***Your support may mean employers will cover medications not only for 1 patient,
but for an entire community***