

Maker of diet drug ramps up production to meet demand

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The wildly popular weight-loss drug Wegovy has become hard to find,

but that could soon change.

Novo Nordisk, which makes the [medication](#), said Wednesday that it has increased production to meet demand.

"We know for a fact that patients have been lined up," CEO Lars Jorgensen said on a call with investors, NBC News reported.

Wegovy, also known as semaglutide, is a GLP-1 agonist, mimicking a hormone that cuts appetite and helps reduce [food intake](#), NBC News reported. It costs about \$1,300 a month and often isn't covered by insurance.

An off-label alternative is the type 2 diabetes drug Ozempic, which is the same medication but given in a smaller dose and approved to help regulate blood sugar levels. Novo Nordisk also makes Ozempic.

Novo Nordisk expects "pent-up demand" for Wegovy to subside over the next few months, Jorgensen said.

"We are obviously encouraged by the trend line we see, but we also do believe there will be a normalization of that," he said.

During the shortage, some Americans have gained some or all of their weight back as they've given up the medication, NBC News reported.

The [company](#) "looks forward" to the medication's wider availability, said Doug Langa, head of North American operations for the Danish company.

More information: The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has more on [semaglutide](#).

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