



Cagrilintide

Long-Acting Amylin Receptor Agonist

What It Is & What It Does

Cagrilintide is a long-acting analog of amylin, a hormone released alongside insulin that signals satiety and slows gastric emptying. Novo Nordisk has run it through a full Phase 3 program, both alone and combined with semaglutide as "CagriSema," giving it one of the more complete human trial records of any compound in this catalog.

What The Research Shows

- REDEFINE 1 (n=3,417, adults with obesity/overweight, no diabetes): CagriSema produced 22.7% mean body weight loss at 68 weeks; 50.7% of participants reached a non-obese BMI versus 10.2% on placebo.
- REDEFINE 2 (adults with type 2 diabetes): CagriSema produced 20.4% mean weight loss at 68 weeks versus 3.0% placebo; separately, NEJM-published data on the same combination in a diabetes cohort showed 13.7% weight loss versus 3.4% placebo, plus superior HbA1c reduction versus semaglutide alone.
- Original Phase 2 cagrilintide monotherapy trial (n=706, dose-ranging 0.3-4.5mg): 9.7% and 10.8% weight loss at the 2.4mg and 4.5mg doses respectively at 26 weeks, versus 3.0% placebo.
- 2026 systematic review/meta-analysis: CagriSema produced significantly greater weight loss than semaglutide alone (mean difference -7.47%, $p < 0.001$); cagrilintide monotherapy performed roughly comparably to semaglutide alone.

Reported Side Effects

- Gastrointestinal effects (nausea most common, especially early and after dose increases)
- Injection site reactions, generally mild
- Meta-analysis found combination therapy increased administration-site reactions (RR 3.27) and nausea (RR 1.64) versus semaglutide alone
- Cagrilintide monotherapy showed higher serious adverse event rates than semaglutide alone in pooled data (RR 1.83)
- Modestly higher LDL cholesterol with combination therapy versus semaglutide alone

Regulatory Status

Not FDA-approved as a standalone product. CagriSema has been submitted to the FDA for weight management based on Phase 3 REDEFINE data; type 2 diabetes indication filing is expected following REIMAGINE program results.