

# NN9535-4447 Epidemiological assessment of the risk for pancreatic cancer associated with the use of semaglutide in patients with type 2 diabetes- A cohort study based on Nordic registry data

**First published:** 30/09/2020

**Last updated:** 23/04/2024

Study

Ongoing

## Administrative details

### EU PAS number

EUPAS37258

---

### Study ID

49276

---

### DARWIN EU® study

No

---

### Study countries

☐ Denmark

☐ Norway

## Study description

The aim of this study is to evaluate whether exposure to semaglutide influences the risk of pancreatic cancer in patients with type 2 diabetes. This is achieved by estimating the risk of pancreatic cancer associated with semaglutide use as compared to use of other non-incretin antidiabetic drugs used at a similar stage as Ozempic® or Rybelsus® in the treatment of type 2 diabetes. A multi-national, non-interventional study based on health care data from Denmark, Sweden, and Norway is conducted covering the period 2018-2023. A cohort study design is used comparing new users of semaglutide with new users of other antidiabetic drugs used at a similar stage as Ozempic® or Rybelsus® in the treatment of type 2 diabetes (active comparators). Active comparators will include the following non-incretin antidiabetic agents: sulphonylureas, sodium-glucose co-transporter 2 inhibitors, and insulin subdivided into i) basal insulin only and ii) basal + bolus insulin or premix insulin. Propensity scores are used to match new users of semaglutide with new users of active comparators. National prescription-, cancer- and patient registries are used to identify exposure to antidiabetic agents, pancreatic cancer cases, and covariates to be used in propensity score matching. This study is a post-authorisation safety study (PASS).

---

## Study status

Ongoing

## Research institutions and networks

### Institutions

## University of Southern Denmark (SDU)

☐ Denmark

**First published:** 01/02/2024

**Last updated:** 27/03/2024

**Institution**

Educational Institution

## Centre for Pharmacoepidemiology, Karolinska Institutet (CPE-KI)

☐ Sweden

**First published:** 24/03/2010

**Last updated:** 23/04/2024

**Institution**

Educational Institution

Laboratory/Research/Testing facility

Not-for-profit

ENCePP partner

## Pharmacoepi center, University of Southern Denmark

☐ Denmark

**First published:** 22/04/2010

**Last updated:** 27/07/2023

**Institution**

Educational Institution

ENCePP partner

Department of Chronic Diseases,  
Pharmacoepidemiologic Research Group, Norwegian  
Institute of Public Health (NIPH)

☐ Norway

**First published:** 29/04/2010

**Last updated:** 06/05/2024

**Institution**

Laboratory/Research/Testing facility

Other

ENCePP partner

## Contact details

### Study institution contact

Anton Pottegård [apottegaard@health.sdu.dk](mailto:apottegaard@health.sdu.dk)

Study contact

[apottegaard@health.sdu.dk](mailto:apottegaard@health.sdu.dk)

### Primary lead investigator

Anton Pottegård

Primary lead investigator

## Study timelines

### Date when funding contract was signed

Planned: 01/11/2018

Actual: 01/11/2018

---

**Study start date**

Planned: 01/12/2020

Actual: 26/01/2021

---

**Date of final study report**

Planned: 31/03/2026

## Sources of funding

- Pharmaceutical company and other private sector

## More details on funding

Novo Nordisk A/S

## Regulatory

**Was the study required by a regulatory body?**

Yes

---

**Is the study required by a Risk Management Plan (RMP)?**

EU RMP category 3 (required)

## Other study registration identification numbers and links

UTN- U1111-1214-6228

## Methodological aspects

### Study type

### Study type list

**Study type:**

Non-interventional study

---

**Scope of the study:**

Assessment of risk minimisation measure implementation or effectiveness

**Main study objective:**

To estimate the risk of pancreatic cancer associated with semaglutide use as compared to use of other non-incretin antidiabetic drugs used at a similar stage as Ozempic® or Rybelsus® in the treatment of type 2 diabetes.

## Study Design

**Non-interventional study design**

Cohort

## Study drug and medical condition

**Study drug International non-proprietary name (INN) or common name**

SEMAGLUTIDE

---

**Medical condition to be studied**

Type 2 diabetes mellitus

## Population studied

**Age groups**

Adults (18 to < 46 years)

Adults (46 to < 65 years)  
Adults (65 to < 75 years)  
Adults (75 to < 85 years)  
Adults (85 years and over)

---

### **Estimated number of subjects**

600000

## Study design details

### **Outcomes**

The endpoint used to address the primary objective is the occurrence of first time (i.e. incident) malignant neoplasm of pancreas as defined by relevant diagnostic codes.

---

### **Data analysis plan**

The propensity for initiating treatment with semaglutide as opposed to active comparators is estimated using logistic regression to determine the association between covariates and semaglutide initiation. The propensity score is used to match new users of semaglutide to new users of active comparators. Ozempic® and Rybelsus® initiation will be handled in two separate propensity score models. Further, patients who are treated/not treated with semaglutide as opposed to active comparators against prediction are removed by asymmetric trimming of the tails of the propensity score. In the final study sample, the hazard ratios with 95% confidence intervals for pancreatic cancer comparing users of semaglutide to users of active comparators is estimated by using a Cox proportional hazards model. Several supplementary analyses are planned as well as sensitivity analyses to check the influence from the analytical/design choices on the study findings.

## Documents

## Study report

[First Progress Report NN9535-4447.pdf](#)(224.86 KB)

[Progress report NN9535-4447\\_3.pdf](#)(293.98 KB)

[\\_ Regulatory Progress Report NN9535-4447 progress report\\_2.pdf](#)(221.29 KB)

## Study, other information

[\\_ Regulatory Progress Report NN9535-4447 progress report\\_2.pdf](#)(221.29 KB)

[Progress report NN9535-4447\\_3.pdf](#)(293.98 KB)

# Data management

## ENCePP Seal

The use of the ENCePP Seal has been discontinued since February 2025. The ENCePP Seal fields are retained in the display mode for transparency but are no longer maintained.

This study has been awarded the ENCePP seal

## Conflicts of interest of investigators

[2020-0065 Declaration of Interests.pdf](#)(903.89 KB)

## Composition of steering group and observers

[ENCePP Seal Composition of Steering Group and Observers.pdf](#)(7.63 KB)

## Data sources



**Data source(s)**

Danish registries (access/analysis)

---

**Data source(s), other**

Danish Registries (access/analysis)

---

**Data sources (types)**

[Administrative healthcare records \(e.g., claims\)](#)

[Disease registry](#)

[Other](#)

---

**Data sources (types), other**

Exposure registry

## Use of a Common Data Model (CDM)

**CDM mapping**

No

## Data quality specifications

**Check conformance**

Unknown

---

**Check completeness**

Unknown

---

### **Check stability**

Unknown

---

### **Check logical consistency**

Unknown

## **Data characterisation**

### **Data characterisation conducted**

No