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Pharmacologic Treatment of Obesity and Drug Induced Weight Gain

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Up to a third of adults in Europe and more than one-third of adults in the United States suffer from the disease of Obesity. Obesity is intimately linked with many of the most common chronic illnesses like hypertension, hyperlipidemia, heart disease, sleep apnea, stroke, type 2 diabetes and 13t types of cancer. Despite the prevalence and impact of Obesity, many physicians report insufficient training in obesity management. This session will offer participants the opportunity to learn about obesity pharmacotherapy and their role in weight management. When used appropriately and in combination with lifestyle modification, pharmacotherapy has an important role in the treatment of obesity and improves both short-term and long-term outcomes. The session will cover the efficacy and risks of the drugs currently approved for obesity, with reference to the main clinical trials, clinical practice guidelines and consideration when using anti-obesity drugs, with emphasis on recently approved drugs.

Additionally it will give a brief overview on drug induced weight gain and suggest that knowledgeable prescribing of medications, choosing whenever possible those with favorable weight profiles, can aid in the prevention and management of obesity.