Does it make sense to allow coverage for older weight loss medications, instead of coverage for GLP-1's?

- Most established, oral weight loss drugs have been around for years.
- Other groups cover oral brand and generic weight loss drugs and exclude any/all GLP-1 whether they are injectable or oral (future).
- The chart below demonstrates how inexpensive most of these oral weight loss drugs are.
- For generic Phentermine, the member ends up paying 100% of the cost as it is less than the generic copay.
- Qsymia is a drug which combines Phentermine with Topriamate.

Recommendation

- Allow coverage of Qsymia and Plenity as Preferred Brand drugs.
- Allow coverage of Phentermine as a Generic drug.
- Do not allow coverage currently for Contrave and Xenical.

Drug Name	Brand/Generic	Gross Monthly Cost
Contrave TAB 8-90MG	Brand	\$728
Qsymia CAP 7.5-46MG	Brand	\$213
Qsymia CAP 3.75-23MG	Brand	\$108
Phentermine TAB 37.5MG	Generic	\$7.09
Phentermine CAP 37.5MG	Generic	\$7.01
Phentermine CAP 15MG	Generic	\$6.75
Phentermine CAP 30MG	Generic	\$6.25
Phentermine TAB 35MG	Generic	\$1.16
Xenical CAP 120MG	Brand	\$748
Plenity CAP	Brand	\$104