



FDA Panel Backs Six Peptides; Houston Clinic Urges Caution

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Houston Regenerative Medicine, a physician-supervised peptide therapy and regenerative medicine clinic in North Houston's Greenspoint District, is asking patients not to treat a July federal advisory vote on six peptides as clearance to resume treatment.

The FDA's Pharmacy Compounding Advisory Committee met July 23 and 24 and voted to recommend six of the seven peptides under review — BPC-157, KPV, TB-500, MOTS-c, Semax and epitalon — for the agency's 503A Bulks List, the roster of bulk substances that compounding pharmacies are permitted to prepare. The lone rejection was emideltide. News of the narrow votes moved quickly through patient communities in Spring, The Woodlands and the Energy Corridor, where many people lost access to peptide suppliers earlier this year.

"A recommendation is not a rule, and a rule is not approval," said Andrew Hong, M.D., a physician at Houston Regenerative Medicine. "Our focus this fall is helping patients understand where the law actually stands before they act on a headline."

The vote carries no immediate legal effect. Before any of the six peptides may be compounded, the FDA must review the recommendation, publish a proposed rule, accept public comment and issue a final rule. That process has not begun. The committee's recommendations are advisory only, and the panel voted against the assessment of FDA staff scientists, who had advised excluding all seven substances. A separate action in April that removed several peptides from the agency's Category 2 list was procedural, tied to withdrawn nominations, and did not authorize compounding either.

The gap between those two facts is where the risk sits. Gray-market suppliers closed through the first half of the year: Science.bio announced a permanent shutdown in January, and Peptide Sciences, described in industry coverage as the largest gray-market research peptide vendor in the United States, closed in March under enforcement pressure. Patients left mid-protocol have since turned to overseas sellers, where material labeled "research use only" carries no requirement for sterility testing, accurate dosing or verified contents.

"The people we worry about are the ones who stopped a protocol in the spring and have been waiting for a headline exactly like this one," said Joel Cherdack, D.C., founder of Houston Regenerative Medicine. "Their next step should not be decided by a vote count."

The clinic evaluates candidates through an intake consultation and diagnostic bloodwork before any protocol begins, and sources through United States compounding pharmacies rather than online research-chemical vendors. Its stated point of difference is sequencing: rather than selling peptides as a standalone product, the practice builds peptide protocols alongside stem cell therapy, platelet-rich plasma and hormone replacement so that tissue preparation and tissue repair are addressed in the same plan.

Patients are also being told what the coming months may look like. If the FDA follows the committee, a proposed rule and comment period would come first, and the substances involved would remain unapproved drugs available only by prescription through a compounding pharmacy ?not products cleared for retail sale or self-administration without oversight.

Houston-area adults weighing physician-supervised peptide therapy for tendon and joint recovery, growth hormone optimization or metabolic support ?including patients who lost access to unregulated suppliers this year? can review protocol details, provider credentials and current regulatory status with Houston Regenerative Medicine at <https://houstonregenerativemd.com/peptide-therapy/>.

This information is provided for educational purposes only and is not a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Always consult a qualified healthcare provider for personal health decisions.

About Houston Regenerative Medicine

Houston Regenerative Medicine is a regenerative medicine clinic in North Houston founded in 2015, offering peptide therapy, stem cell therapy, platelet-rich plasma, hormone replacement and medically supervised weight management. The practice was founded by Joel Cherdack, D.C., and its clinical team includes Andrew Hong, M.D. It serves Greater Houston, Spring and The Woodlands from 100 Glenborough Dr, Suite 0403J, Houston, TX 77067. Phone: (346) 550-7171. <https://houstonregenerativemd.com/>

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Houston Regenerative Medicine

Houston Regenerative Medicine was founded in 2015 by Dr. Joel Cherdack with a clear mission: to help patients avoid unnecessary surgeries and find lasting relief through the body's own healing power.

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