FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 27, 2026

ASOP Global: PCAC Peptide Votes Ignore the Evidence and Put Patients at Risk

WASHINGTON, D.C (July 27, 2026)— Leigh Verbois, Board Chair of the Alliance for Safe Online Pharmacies (ASOP Global) and former Director of the Office of Drug Security, Integrity and Response at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), issued the following statement after FDA's Pharmacy Compounding Advisory Committee recommended adding six peptides to the Section 503A Bulk Drug Substances List:

"ASOP Global warned the committee directly that the scientific record does not support adding these peptides to the 503A Bulks List. The committee moved forward anyway.

"These votes disregard serious, unresolved questions about human safety, effectiveness, product quality, appropriate dosing, supply-chain integrity and post-market oversight. Consumer demand, black-market activity and the commercial readiness of telehealth platforms are not substitutes for rigorous science.

"The argument that creating a regulated compounding pathway will steer patients away from illegal sellers is wishful thinking. Without strong enforcement, it will instead give bad actors a new guise of legitimacy and another opportunity to imply that FDA has authorized or endorsed products that remain unapproved.

"Patients will not hear 'nonbinding advisory recommendation.' They will hear that FDA said yes. Illegal online sellers, wellness clinics, med-spas and social media promoters will exploit that confusion to market peptides for weight loss, recovery, anti-aging and other uses without adequate evidence or oversight.

"This is not a hypothetical risk. Illegal sellers already offer purported peptides as 'research use only' products while targeting consumers for human use. Patients purchasing through these channels may receive injectable products of unknown identity, purity, potency, sterility or origin, with no reliable medical supervision or meaningful recourse if they are harmed.

"Adding these substances to the compounding market will pour fuel on an already-existing inferno of patient risk online. It will also magnify serious oversight gaps because traditional 503A pharmacies are not subject to the same federal registration, manufacturing, reporting and inspection requirements that apply to 503B outsourcing facilities.

"FDA should reject the committee's recommendations. The appropriate response to illegal peptide sales is stronger enforcement, tighter supply-chain controls and rigorous clinical research. Not opening a back door for the widespread sale of inadequately studied substances.

"Patients deserve medicines supported by evidence, quality controls and accountability. They should not be expected to bear the consequences of a regulatory experiment that puts commercial momentum ahead of patient safety."

The committee considered BPC-157, KPV, TB-500, MOTS-c, emideltide, Semax and Epitalon at its July 23-24 meeting. Its recommendations are advisory and do not constitute FDA approval.

ASOP Global previously warned FDA that expanding bulk compounding can fuel online markets in which patients are

misled about whether compounded products have been reviewed for safety and efficacy. The ASOP Global Foundation's 2025 Consumer Behavior Survey found that 77% of GLP-1 users mistakenly believed compounded medications are evaluated by FDA for safety and efficacy, rising to 86% among those obtaining GLP-1s through an online provider.

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About ASOP Global

The Alliance for Safe Online Pharmacies (ASOP Global), a 501(c)(4) non-profit organization headquartered in Washington, D.C., with activities in the U.S., Canada, Europe, Latin America, and Asia, is dedicated to protecting consumers around the world, ensuring safe access to medications, and combating illegal online drug sellers. Learn more at buysaferx.pharmacy.