



January 6, 2025

The Honorable Kwame Raoul
Attorney General of Illinois
Office of the Attorney General
100 West Randolph Street
Chicago, IL 60601

Dear Attorney General Raoul,

I am writing on behalf of the Alliance for Pharmacy Compounding in response to your recent [consumer alert](#) regarding GLP-1 drugs for weight loss. Your emphasis on patient safety is commendable, as ensuring public awareness of potential risks is a shared priority. However, your alert reflects some misunderstanding of law and regulation of compounding that makes the alert misleading. I would like to provide additional context regarding compounded medications, which play a vital role in personalized healthcare for many Americans.

Compounded GLP-1 drugs, including those containing semaglutide, are legally prepared under FDA guidelines when commercially manufactured alternatives are in shortage or unavailable. These medications address a critical need for patients who might otherwise go without treatment. For instance, the FDA's drug shortage listing allows 503A pharmacies to compound medications like semaglutide using active ingredients from FDA-registered manufacturers, providing necessary care during times of scarcity.

Legitimate compounding pharmacies operate under rigorous state and federal standards to ensure quality and reliability. These pharmacies are regularly inspected and use pharmaceutical-grade ingredients sourced from FDA-registered suppliers. The concerns raised in the consumer alert about non-pharmaceutical-grade ingredients do not reflect the practices of reputable compounding pharmacies but instead underscore the need to distinguish them from unregulated or illegitimate sources. To aid in this effort, APC has created a resource, *Is It Legit?* (a4pc.org/isitlegit), which helps patients and prescribers identify legitimate, state-licensed compounding pharmacies and avoid unsafe sources.

Compounded medications are an essential solution for addressing patient-specific needs that cannot be met by commercially manufactured drugs. Patients with unique health conditions often require individualized dosages, allergen-free formulations, or alternative delivery methods, all of which are made possible by compounding pharmacies.

While caution is always warranted when patients consider weight-loss medications, we hope your office will help clarify that compounded GLP-1 drugs, when prepared by legitimate, state-licensed compounding pharmacies, are both legal and necessary for meeting the needs of underserved patients. Mischaracterizing these medications may inadvertently confuse patients and hinder access to appropriate care.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tenille Davis', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tenille Davis, PharmD RPh, BCSCP, FAPC

Chief Advocacy Officer

Alliance for Pharmacy Compounding

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The Alliance for Pharmacy Compounding is the industry trade association and the voice for pharmacy compounding, representing more than 600 compounding small businesses – including compounding pharmacists and technicians in both 503A and 503B settings, as well as prescribers, educators, researchers, and suppliers.