

Serena Viswanathan Acting Associate Director Division of Advertising Practices United States of America FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20580

November 24, 2020

WARNING LETTER

VIA EMAIL to info@vikingalternative.com Viking Alternative Medicine 7509 State Road 52 Suite 110-G Hudson, FL 34667

Re: Unsubstantiated claims for Coronavirus treatment or prevention

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to advise you that in November 2020, FTC staff has reviewed your website at <u>https://www.vikingalternative.com</u>, and your social media websites at <u>https://www.facebook.com/pg/VikingAlternativeMedicine/</u>, <u>https://www.facebook.com/channel/UC2-oNYox6TI9z492RsTZrKA</u>, and <u>https://www.instagram.com/vikinglivesmatter/</u>, where you promote products and services available at Viking Alternative Medicine, including Thymosin Alpha 1. We have determined that you are unlawfully advertising that certain products or services treat or prevent Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

Some examples of Coronavirus prevention or cure claims on your websites include:

• "THYMOSIN ALPHA 1 – PEPTIDE FOR IMMUNE SYSTEM

COVID 19 BOOST IMMUNE SYSTEM WITH THYMOSIN ALPHA 1

A solid immune system is critical especially with the current viral pandemic. In this video we look at a peptide that can super charge your immune system and help prevent disease and infection.

Thymosin Alpha 1 is now available in a nasal spray so that you do not need to inject this peptide. We have this in stock and available. You need a prescription to obtain this peptide so make your appointment with our Licensed Medical staff. As always,

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your consultation is free and can be scheduled at your convenience using our online appointment system.

[Embedded video titled "SUPER CHARGE YOUR IMMUNE SYSTEM," which is also available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BobpMFi6-51]

Today I want to talk about something that should be important to all of us, which is keeping our Immune System optimized. This is especially critical with the recent events happening around the globe. So in this video, we're going discuss an amazing Immune Boosting peptide and I'll tell you where you can get it.

The peptide is called Thymosin Alpha 1 and it's now available by prescription and in pharmaceutical grade purity. These are the "Scouts" inside of your body that identify foreign objects, like Viruses, and call in the Calvary to exterminate them. The more Scouts you have, the better your chances of identifying and eradicating a threat... Before it becomes an actual problem. Without this process, your body wouldn't react to an invasion until the foreign object had already established a stronghold in your system. And obviously identifying an invader Before they have a chance to set up camp... can be the difference between getting sick, and not even realizing a virus had entered your body in the first place.

I'm not even sure I'm stressing the importance of this peptide and its ability to strengthen your overall immune system. It can literally be a game-changer. And while it's historically been administered only as an injectable, it has just become available in the form of a nasal spray.

So let's talk about the main benefits Thymosin Alpha 1 has on the body:

- 1. It enhances the function of T Cells. And T Cells are the Soldier Cells. They're the ones that kill targeted invaders in the body. So let's say your normal immune system is a Ragtag group of Jungle Rebels. We throw some Thymosin Alpha 1 in there and all of a sudden you're protected by the United States military.
- 2. It helps with the removal of acute and chronic infections.
- 3. It is an anti-inflammatory, which reduces inflammation in the body....
- 5. It has antibacterial, antiviral, and antifungal properties. This can be the catalyst that stops an invasion before it even starts....
- 8. It increases the effectiveness of vaccinations....
- 10. It's So Good at helping the immune system that it's used in the treatment of Hepatitis, AIDS, Cancer, Cystic Fibrosis, and Lyme Disease... just to name a few....
- 11. And lastly, it even has the ability to bolster the immune system of the elderly... which is extremely important at this point in time.

So not only can Thymosin Alpha 1 help you if you already have an Immune System issue such as an infection or a more severe condition, but if you don't, it can help prevent the condition from starting in the first place.

Therefore... if we increase the effectiveness of our immune system with Thymus Alpha 1... we create this fortress that effectively protects us against the dangers of the outside world.

Thymosin Alpha 1 is now available through Viking Alternative Medicine in the form of a nasal spray. I'm not going to say it's cheap... in fact, you're looking at around \$175 for a little less than a 30 day supply, but if your immune system is important to you... this is the solution. Especially for the elderly who are at a huge risk of having serious complications from the current virus pandemic.

So do your research, but if there's been any time in your life where it would be a great idea to have a supercharged immune system... it would probably be today."

[From your webpage "Thymosin Alpha 1 – Peptide for Immune System," <u>https://www.vikingalternative.com/thymosin-alpha-1/;</u> you also make substantially similar statements in your March 24, 2020 YouTube video, "Super Charge Your Immune System With Thymosin Alpha 1," <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BobpMFi6-5I.</u>]

It is unlawful under the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 41 *et seq.*, to advertise that a product can prevent, treat, or cure human disease unless you possess competent and reliable scientific evidence, including, when appropriate, well-controlled human clinical studies, substantiating that the claims are true at the time they are made. For COVID-19, no such study is currently known to exist for the product identified above. Thus, any coronavirus-related prevention or treatment claims regarding such product are not supported by competent and reliable scientific evidence. You must immediately cease making all such claims.

You are also advised to review all other claims for your products and services and immediately cease making claims if they are not supported by competent and reliable scientific evidence.

Within 48 hours, please send a message to Richard Cleland via electronic mail at <u>rcleland@ftc.gov</u> describing the specific actions you have taken to address the FTC's concerns. If you have any questions regarding compliance with the FTC Act, please contact Richard Cleland at 202-326-3088.

Very truly yours,

Serena Viswanathan Acting Associate Director