



United States of America
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20580

Serena Viswanathan
Associate Director
Division of Advertising Practices

April 14, 2021

WARNING LETTER

VIA EMAIL TO drcalvo@texascenterwellness.com

R. David Calvo, MD
Texas Center Wellness
12812 Hacienda Ridge
Bee Cave, TX 78738

Re: Unsubstantiated claims for Coronavirus prevention and treatment

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to advise you that FTC staff has reviewed your website at <https://www.texascenterwellness.com/> in April 2021. We also reviewed your social media website at <https://www.facebook.com/texascenterwell/>, where you direct consumers to your website <https://www.texascenterwellness.com/> to book appointments for treatments and purchase supplements. We have determined that you are unlawfully advertising that supplements, peptide therapy, and intravenous vitamin therapy treat or prevent Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

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

- On your website at <https://www.texascenterwellness.com/coronavirus-covid-19-and-your-immune-system/>, you state:

“Coronavirus COVID-19 and Your Immune System...

[Button labeled “BUY IMMUNE SUPPLEMENTS NOW →” that links to <https://www.texascenterwellness.com/pharmaceutical-grade-supplements-2/>, where consumers can access several online portals to purchase supplements]

...Texas Center Wellness has received many calls from you (our patients) about the novel coronavirus (the illness officially named COVID-19). Thus, we are taking the time to keep you informed about the virus and the preventative actions that you can take to help mitigate your exposure to the virus...

How to help prevent the spread of COVID-19?...

Texas Center Wellness is issuing a supplementary preventative action to the CDC's suggestions:

- **Strengthen your immune system**

DR. CALVO'S IMMUNE-BOOSTING PRECAUTIONS

IV Vitamin Therapy

IV Vitamin Therapy is one of the best ways to improve the health of your immune system. By bypassing the digestive system, IV Vitamin Therapy delivers immune-boosting vitamins directly to your bloodstream, ensuring a 100% absorption rate. This is beneficial for both patients who have difficulty taking oral vitamins, and anybody else looking for an immune boost.

BOOK AN IV TODAY:
512-957-0001

Immune-Boosting Supplements

See Dr. Calvo's full list of Immune Supplements [Here](https://us.fullscript.com/welcome/dcalvo) [link to <https://us.fullscript.com/welcome/dcalvo>]

Immune-Modulating Peptide Therapy

Thymosin Alpha-1 (Ta-1)

Thymosin Alpha-1 (Ta1) is a 28-amino acid peptide that is a powerful modulator of immunity and inflammation. It is a biological response modifier that is used for treating several diseases, by activating various cells of the immune system. Ta1 is therefore expected to have clinical benefits in disorders where immune responses are impaired or ineffective, such as:

- acute and chronic infections...
- Any viral disease...

START PEPTIDE THERAPY TODAY:

512-957-0001

The above are just a few steps you can take to supplement your preventative actions against the cold, flu, and other viruses like the Coronavirus....”

- In a Facebook post dated March 3, 2020, you state:

“We have received many calls from you (our patients) about the novel coronavirus (the illness officially named COVID-19). Thus, we are taking the time to keep you informed about the virus and the preventative actions that you can take to help mitigate your exposure to the virus should it reach our area of Austin, Texas.

Read the Update: [link to <https://www.texascenterwellness.com/coronavirus-covid-19-and-your-immune-system/>, described above]

Call for more questions: 512-957-0001

#coronavirus #coronavirusupdate #immunehealth #austintexas
#texascenterwellness.”

It is unlawful under the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 41 *et seq.*, to advertise that a product or service can prevent, treat, or cure human disease unless you possess competent and reliable scientific evidence 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 products or services identified above. Thus, any coronavirus-related prevention or treatment claims regarding such products or services 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 that are not supported by competent and reliable scientific evidence.

Violations of the FTC Act may result in legal action seeking a Federal District Court injunction and an order may require that you pay back money to consumers. In addition, pursuant to the COVID-19 Consumer Protection Act, Section 1401, Division FF, of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, P.L. 116-260, marketers who make deceptive claims about the treatment, cure, prevention, or mitigation of COVID-19 are subject to a civil penalty of up to \$43,792 per violation.

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Within 48 hours, please send a message to Richard Cleland via electronic mail at rcleland@ftc.gov 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 Mr. Cleland at 202-326-3088.

Very truly yours,

Serena Viswanathan
Associate Director

cc: Facebook, *via email to* consumerpolicy@fb.com