

The 12 Peptides Under Review

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ABSTRACT — In 2026 the United States began reversing a decade of restrictive policy on wellness peptides. This paper gives the verified timeline — what was actually announced, what the Federal Register actually says, how the July advisory committee actually voted — and, just as important, what remains undecided. Media coverage has repeatedly declared peptides 'legal again.' They are not. Here is the accurate version.

1. The Verified Timeline

Date	Event	What it actually did
Feb 27, 2026	HHS Secretary announces a peptide-policy reversal on the Joe Rogan Experience	Signalled intent. Changed no law, no list, no legality.
Apr 22, 2026	Federal Register notice, Docket FDA-2025-N-6895	Formally removed 12 peptides from 503A 'Category 2' (the effective blacklist) and scheduled advisory review. Removal ≠ approval.
Jun 29, 2026	Associated Press reports conflict-of-interest concerns on the advisory panel	At least three PCAC members reported with financial ties to the peptide industry; two selling peptides to patients.
Jun 30, 2026	FDA staff briefing document	Staff recommended AGAINST all seven July-meeting peptides, citing characterisation and human-safety data gaps.
Jul 23–24, 2026	Pharmacy Compounding Advisory Committee (PCAC) votes	Recommended 6 of 7 peptides for the 503A Bulks List over staff objection: BPC-157 (8–6), KPV (8–6), TB-500 (8–6), MOTS-C (7–5), Epitalon (7–4), Semax (8–5). DSIP rejected (6–7).

The twelve peptides removed from Category 2 in April: BPC-157, TB-500, KPV, MOTS-C, DSIP, Semax, Epitalon, GHK-Cu, LL-37, Dihexa, PEG-MGF, and Melanotan II. Seven reached the July meeting; the remainder await scheduling.

2. What Is Decided — and What Is Not

Decided

The twelve are no longer on the effective blacklist. An advisory committee has recommended six of seven reviewed so far. The political direction is unmistakable.

Not decided

PCAC votes are advisory. Nothing becomes lawful to compound until FDA completes rulemaking and places a substance on the 503A Bulks List — a process with no statutory deadline that historically runs months to years. Even then, the lawful channel is a licensed compounding pharmacy dispensing against an individual prescription — not e-commerce, not 'research chemical' websites, not gym-bag vials. And the staff-versus-panel split, plus the reported conflicts of interest, gives FDA ample procedural room to move slowly or attach conditions. Canada, meanwhile, has announced no parallel process: nothing in this timeline changed any Canadian rule.

3. What It Means for Consumers

The grey market's marketing writes itself: 'peptides are legal now.' The accurate statement is narrower — a review process that could eventually make certain peptides available through compounding pharmacies has cleared its first advisory stage. A consumer buying BPC-157 online today is buying exactly what they were buying in 2024: an unregulated product from an unaccountable seller (see WP-005 for what independent purity testing found). If and when compounded access arrives, it will look like a prescription filled at a pharmacy — with a paper trail, a pharmacist, and recourse. That difference is the whole point of the system.

4. What to Watch Next

Four markers, in order of significance: (1) a Federal Register proposed rule naming any of the six for the Bulks List — the first legally operative step; (2) the scheduling of the remaining five peptides for PCAC review; (3) any FDA response to the conflict-of-interest reporting, which could slow or restructure the process; (4) any Health Canada signal of a parallel review — none exists at this writing. Our Peptide Report tracks all four weekly, with each entry status-stamped.

References & Sources

[1] Federal Register, Docket FDA-2025-N-6895 (April 22, 2026).

[2] FDA — PCAC meeting materials and staff briefing document (June 30, 2026); meeting transcript (July 23–24, 2026).

[3] Associated Press — reporting on PCAC member financial ties (June 29, 2026).

[4] The Joe Rogan Experience — HHS Secretary appearance (February 27, 2026), as publicly released.

[5] FDCA §503A; FDA guidance on bulk drug substances nominated for the 503A list.

Companion papers: WP-001 (the four regulatory worlds), WP-005 (grey-market formulary).

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