

FDA-Approved Medicines vs. Compounded Versions

At Novo Nordisk, patient safety is our top priority.

Novo Nordisk medicines have been proven safe and effective in robust clinical studies, and they are **FDA approved**.¹⁻³

While compounding is not illegal, compounded products are **NOT** the same as FDA-approved medicines^{4,5}: Compounded versions do not undergo FDA's rigorous review—or approval—to certify their safety, effectiveness, and manufacturing quality.⁶

For these reasons there can be **multiple risks and potential harms** associated with use of compounded versions.

Compounded versions may have:



High levels of impurities, with up to 33% of detected chemicals being unknown⁷

- Some samples may include chemicals like formaldehyde⁷
- Impurities could make the compounded version harmful or less effective⁷



An increased risk of causing an immune response⁷

- This may prevent an FDA-approved drug from working, if taken in the future⁷



Too much or not enough active ingredient, making it difficult to dose accurately^{7,8}

- **Some compounded versions had NO active ingredient⁷**



Sometimes, the active ingredient in compounded versions comes into the US from illegal or unauthorized manufacturers.⁹



People living with obesity deserve high-quality medicines they can trust and that are safe, effective, and approved by the FDA.



To learn more about Novo Nordisk medicines or for more information on the potential risks associated with compounded versions, speak to your physician or scan the QR code to access [semaglutide.com](https://www.semaglutide.com).

References: 1. U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Ozempic® (semaglutide injection) prescribing information (PI). https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2025/209637s035,209637s037lbl.pdf. Accessed April 2026; 2. U.S. FDA. Rybelsus® / Ozempic® (semaglutide tablets) PI. https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2026/213051s030lbl.pdf. Accessed April 2026; 3. U.S. FDA. Wegovy® (semaglutide) PI. https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/drugsatfda_docs/label/2025/218316Orig1s000lbl.pdf. Accessed January 2026; 4. U.S. FDA. Drug Compounding. <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/guidance-compliance-regulatory-information/human-drug-compounding>. Accessed February 2026; 5. Neumiller JJ et al. *Diabetes Care*. 2025;48:177-181; 6. U.S. FDA. FDA's Concerns with Unapproved GLP-1 Drugs Used for Weight Loss. <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/postmarket-drug-safety-information-patients-and-providers/fdas-concerns-unapproved-glp-1-drugs-used-weight-loss>. Accessed January 2026; 7. Hach M et al. *Pharm Res*. 2024;41:1991-2014; 8. U.S. FDA. FDA alerts health care providers, compounders and patients of dosing errors associated with compounded injectable semaglutide products. <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/human-drug-compounding/fda-alerts-health-care-providers-compounders-and-patients-dosing-errors-associated-compounded>. Accessed January 2026; 9. The Partnership for Safe Medicines®. New report reveals illegal ingredients for knockoff weight loss drugs flooding into U.S. from foreign sources, endangering patient safety. <https://www.safemedicines.org/2025/02/new-report-reveals-illegal-ingredients-for-knockoff-weight-loss-drugs-flooding-into-u-s-from-foreign-sources-endangering-patient-safety.html>. Accessed January 2026.