

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

October 16, 2020

WARNING LETTER

VIA EMAIL TO <u>biorenewboro@gmail.com</u> and <u>stevie@biorenewclinic.com</u>
Murfreesboro Bio Renew Clinic
803 North Thompson Lane
Suite 104 A
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

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 http://www.biorenewclinic.com/, and your social media websites at https://www.instagram.com/biorenewboro/ and https://www.facebook.com/borobiorenew/, where you promote products and services available at Murfreesboro Bio Renew Clinic, including the peptide therapies Thymosin Alpha 1, Thymosin Beta 4, LL-37, Pentosan Polysulfate, and Selank, in September 2020. We have determined that you are unlawfully advertising that certain products treat or prevent Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

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

• In a June 17, 2020 post on your Facebook and Instagram pages, you state:

"Thymosin Alpha 1 Peptide Therapy Promising Treatment for Covid-19

Available at BioRenew Clinic

More evidence is emerging suggesting the ability of THYMOSIN ALPHA 1 to reduce mortality in patients infected with Covid-19. This amazing peptide continues to demonstrate its therapeutic benefits in numerous disease states. Swipe and read below to learn more:

o Directly suppresses viral and tumor replication

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o Increases viral and tumor antigenic expression on cell surface making them more susceptible to immune destruction

...

o Vaccine Adjuvant (making them more effective)"

[The posts include several images of what appear to be scientific studies or articles, which include the statements: "Thymosin alpha 1 ($T\alpha 1$) reduces the mortality of severe COVID-19 by restoration of lymphocytopenia and reversion of exhausted T cells," "Thymosin Alpha-1: Mechanism of Action[.] Directly suppresses viral and tumor replication...," and "Thymosin Alpha-1 and COVID-19: Results[.] $T\alpha 1$ reduces COVID-19 patient mortality..."]

[From posts dated June 17, 2020 on your social media websites at https://www.instagram.com/biorenewboro/ and https://www.facebook.com/borobiorenew/]

• In a March 16, 2020 post on your Facebook and Instagram pages, you state:

"BEST PEPTIDES FOR COVID-19 PREVENTION

- Thymosin alpha-1 (TA-1) Thymosin alpha-1 is the most recommend [sic] peptide for immune stimulation. This should be used as a treatment adjuvant and a prophylactic and can help with many conditions beyond viral illness!
- LL-37 Cationic host defense peptides such as LL-37 are key components of innate defenses against infection...[and] have more recently been shown to have antiviral properties. Has been shown to be highly effective in preventing viral attachment to cells. Used in several virus studies and has been anecdotally reported to work well with respiratory tract viruses.
- Pentosan Polysulfate Polysulfates are highly potent and selective inhibitors of the in vitro replication of HIV and other enveloped viruses such as corona virus....
- Selank has been demonstrated to have antiviral activity....
- Thymosin Beta 4 Stimulates wound healing by enhanced angiogenesis...and has anti-inflammatory properties by decreasing inflammatory cytokines."

[From posts dated March 16, 2020 on your social media websites at https://www.instagram.com/biorenewboro/ and https://www.facebook.com/borobiorenew/]

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 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 identified above. Thus, any coronavirus-related prevention or treatment claims regarding such products are

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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 immediately cease making claims that are not supported by competent and reliable scientific evidence.

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 Acting Associate Director