

Pharmacy Safety Checklist

How to Verify Legitimate Semaglutide Sources & Avoid Counterfeit Products

■ **IMPORTANT SAFETY ALERT:** The FDA has reported over 600 adverse events linked to compounded or counterfeit semaglutide products, including hospitalizations. Use this checklist every time you obtain semaglutide from a new source.

Patient Information

Patient Name:	_____	Date:	_____
Prescriber:	_____	Pharmacy:	_____
Medication:	_____	Dose:	_____

Section 1: Verify the Pharmacy Is Legitimate

- Licensed & state-registered pharmacy** — Confirm the pharmacy holds a valid state license. Check your state Board of Pharmacy website.
- NABP accreditation (VIPPS seal)** — Look for the Verified Internet Pharmacy Practice Sites seal for online pharmacies. Verify at [safe.pharmacy](https://www.safe.pharmacy).
- Physical address is verifiable** — The pharmacy has a real, verifiable street address (not just a P.O. Box).
- Licensed pharmacist available** — You can speak directly with a licensed pharmacist who can answer clinical questions.
- Requires a valid prescription** — The pharmacy requires a prescription from a licensed U.S. healthcare provider before dispensing.
- Not listed on FDA BeSafeRx warnings** — Check [fda.gov/besafere](https://www.fda.gov/besafere) to confirm the pharmacy is not flagged for selling counterfeit drugs.

Section 2: Verify the Product Is Authentic

- Brand-name product (Ozempic, Wegovy, or Rybelsus)** — Only FDA-approved semaglutide products are manufactured by Novo Nordisk.
- Correct NDC number on label** — Verify the National Drug Code matches official Novo Nordisk NDC numbers (see reference table below).
- Novo Nordisk listed as manufacturer** — The packaging clearly states "Manufactured by Novo Nordisk" with a valid lot number.
- Tamper-evident packaging intact** — The box and pen/blister pack show no signs of tampering, repackaging, or damage.
- Expiration date is current** — The product has a clearly printed, future expiration date in the standard format.

- Pen/tablet matches official appearance** — Compare the product to images on [ozempic.com](https://www.ozempic.com), [wegovy.com](https://www.wegovy.com), or [rybelsus.com](https://www.rybelsus.com).
- NOT labeled "for research use only"** — Legitimate FDA-approved medications are never labeled "research use only" or "not for human use."
- NOT a "semaglutide sodium" or "semaglutide salt"** — FDA-approved semaglutide is a base form. Salt forms (sodium, acetate) indicate a compounded or counterfeit product.

Official NDC Reference Numbers

Use these NDC numbers to verify that your product is an authentic, FDA-approved semaglutide medication manufactured by Novo Nordisk.

Product	Dose / Strength	NDC Number	Pen Color
Ozempic	0.25 mg / 0.5 mg	0169-4130-12	Red label
Ozempic	1 mg	0169-4132-12	Blue label
Ozempic	2 mg	0169-4772-12	Yellow label
Wegovy	0.25 mg	0169-4500-01	Burgundy cap
Wegovy	0.5 mg	0169-4502-01	Burgundy cap
Wegovy	1 mg	0169-4504-01	Burgundy cap
Wegovy	1.7 mg	0169-4506-01	Burgundy cap
Wegovy	2.4 mg	0169-4508-01	Burgundy cap
Rybelsus	3 mg (30 tablets)	0169-4314-01	N/A
Rybelsus	7 mg (30 tablets)	0169-4316-01	N/A
Rybelsus	14 mg (30 tablets)	0169-4318-01	N/A

Section 3: Red Flags — When to Walk Away

If you encounter **any** of the following warning signs, do NOT purchase or use the product. Report it to the FDA MedWatch program.

Red Flag	Why It's Dangerous
✗ No prescription required	Legitimate semaglutide always requires a valid prescription from a licensed provider.
✗ Price seems too good to be true	If the price is dramatically lower than \$800+/month (without savings programs), the product may be counterfeit.
✗ Labeled 'compounded semaglutide'	As of October 2024, FDA declared semaglutide shortage resolved. Compounded versions lack FDA safety oversight.
✗ Labeled 'research use only'	This label means the product is NOT approved for human use and has not undergone FDA quality testing.
✗ 'Semaglutide sodium' or salt forms	FDA-approved semaglutide is the base form only. Salt forms indicate non-FDA-approved manufacturing.
✗ Ships from outside the U.S.	FDA-approved semaglutide is distributed through authorized U.S. supply chains only.
✗ No lot number or expiration date	All legitimate pharmaceutical products must have traceable lot numbers and expiration dates.
✗ Packaging looks different or damaged	Altered packaging, misspellings, blurry printing, or broken seals indicate tampering or counterfeiting.

Section 4: Online Pharmacy Verification

If you are purchasing semaglutide through an online pharmacy or telehealth platform, complete these additional verification steps.

- VIPPS-accredited or LegitScript-certified** — Verify at safe.pharmacy or legitscript.com. These are the gold standards for online pharmacy legitimacy.
- U.S.-based pharmacy fulfillment** — The medication is dispensed from a U.S.-licensed pharmacy, not shipped internationally.
- Telehealth provider is state-licensed** — If a telehealth consultation is included, verify the prescriber holds an active license in your state.
- Real clinical evaluation performed** — A legitimate telehealth provider will review your medical history, BMI, comorbidities, and contraindications before prescribing.
- No guaranteed approval before evaluation** — Any service that promises a prescription before a medical evaluation is a red flag.
- Transparent pricing with no hidden fees** — The total cost (medication + consultation + shipping) is clearly disclosed before purchase.
- Customer support is reachable** — You can contact a real person via phone, email, or chat for questions about your order.
- Medication arrives in proper cold-chain packaging** — Injectable semaglutide (Ozempic/Wegovy) must be shipped refrigerated (36°F–46°F / 2°C–8°C).

Section 5: What to Do If You Suspect a Problem

#	Action	Details
1	STOP using the product immediately	Do not inject or take any more doses until the product is verified.
2	Contact your healthcare provider	Report your concerns and discuss whether you need medical evaluation.
3	Report to FDA MedWatch	File a report at fda.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.
4	Report to your state Board of Pharmacy	File a complaint against the dispensing pharmacy if applicable.
5	Preserve the product and packaging	Keep the product, packaging, and any receipts as evidence for investigation.
6	Contact Novo Nordisk directly	Call 1-800-727-6500 to report suspected counterfeit products.

Section 6: Official Verification Resources

Resource	Website / Contact	Purpose
FDA BeSafeRx	fda.gov/besaferx	Verify online pharmacies and check for warnings
NABP Safe.Pharmacy	safe.pharmacy	Search for VIPPS-accredited pharmacies
LegitScript	legitscript.com	Verify online pharmacy and telehealth legitimacy

FDA Drug Shortages	accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/drugshortages	Check current shortage status for all medications
FDA MedWatch	fda.gov/medwatch	Report adverse events or suspected counterfeit products
State Board of Pharmacy	nabp.pharmacy/boards-of-pharmacy	Find your state's pharmacy licensing board
Novo Nordisk Product Verification	1-800-727-6500	Report suspected counterfeit Novo Nordisk products

Verification Record

Use this section to record the results of your verification each time you obtain semaglutide from a new source.

Date of Verification: _____

Pharmacy Name: _____

Pharmacy License #: _____

VIPPS / LegitScript Verified: Yes No N/A

Product Name & Dose: _____

NDC Number on Label: _____

Lot Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Packaging Intact & Authentic: Yes No

Cold-Chain Maintained (injectable): Yes No N/A (oral)

All Red Flags Clear: Yes No

OVERALL RESULT: **SAFE** — All checks passed | **CONCERN** — One or more checks failed (do NOT use; consult provider)

Notes

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