

The COA Checklist — Read a Certificate of Analysis in 6 Checks

A Certificate of Analysis (COA) is the lab report that proves what's actually in a vial. It's the single skill that protects you from an unverified injectable. Ask for the COA **before** you buy — then run it through these six checks.



CHECK 01

The batch number matches your vial

The lot / batch number on the COA must match the number printed on the exact vial you received — not a generic sample document reused for every order.

Look for: an identical lot number on both the COA and the physical label.



CHECK 02

An independent, named testing lab

The test should be run by a third-party lab that is named on the document — ideally ISO/IEC 17025 accredited — not by the seller's own in-house “quality team.”

Look for: a real lab name, address, and accreditation number you can search.



CHECK 03

A recent, dated test

The COA should carry a test date that is recent and tied to your batch. An undated or years-old certificate tells you nothing about the vial in your hand.

Look for: a clear test date within the product's stated shelf life.



CHECK 04

Confirmed identity & purity

It should confirm the compound is what it claims to be (by HPLC and/or mass spectrometry) and state a purity figure — typically $\geq 98-99\%$ for a legitimate peptide.

Look for: a named method (HPLC / MS) and a stated purity percentage.



CHECK 05

Contaminant & safety testing

For anything injectable, the COA should show tests for endotoxins, heavy metals, residual solvents and sterility — the results that speak to whether it's safe to inject.

Look for: endotoxin / sterility / heavy-metal lines marked within limits.



CHECK 06

Content matches the label

The measured quantity or concentration must match the labeled dose. If the label says 5 mg but the assay reports less, you're not getting what you paid for.

Look for: assayed content that equals the mg / concentration on the label.



If a seller can't or won't produce a batch-matched COA, treat that as the answer. “Research-grade” or “not for human consumption” labeling exists precisely so sellers can skip this testing — which is exactly why an unverified injectable is the risk this checklist protects you from.