U.S. FOOD & DRUG ADMINISTRATION

Human Foods Program

Public Meeting on Exploring the Scope of Dietary Supplement Ingredients

Date: March 27, 2026
Time: 9:00 AM 3:00 PM ET
Location: Wiley Auditorium, 5001 Campus Drive, College Park, MD 20740

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) invites the public to register for the public meeting titled, "Exploring the Scope of Dietary Supplement Ingredients." The purpose of the public meeting is for FDA and stakeholders to discuss the evolving landscape of dietary supplement ingredients and how recent scientific and technological advances are shaping the industry.

Background

The Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act) defines "dietary supplement," in part, as a product that contains one or more dietary ingredients, including "a dietary substance for use by man to supplement the diet by increasing the total dietary intake" (Section 201(ff)(1)(E) of the FD&C Act). FDA's Office of Dietary Supplement Programs (ODSP) is holding a public meeting to gather stakeholder input regarding the meaning of this provision.

Scientific and technological advancements have led to an increase in development of novel ingredients. For example, new technologies and approaches are being applied to the science of dietary supplements, including precision fermentation, cell culture technology, and recombinant production, which has led to the development of bioactive compounds derived from foods, plants, and other sources. Accordingly, it would be helpful to better understand how these scientific and technical advancements intersect with dietary ingredient production to inform our assessment.

Additionally, the discussion will explore questions related to determining the identity of notable supplement ingredients like proteins, enzymes, and microorganisms, which are not specifically listed in section 201(ff)(1) of the FD&C Act. ODSP is interested in learning about the different attributes that are important for assessing identity.

The meeting will explore how new methodologies used to produce existing dietary ingredients might be evaluated. Additionally, FDA will seek input on emerging ingredient types and how they fit within the dietary supplement framework.

Agenda and Format
The public meeting will consist of presentations and panel discussions regarding

- The scope of the phrase "dietary substance for use by man to supplement the diet by increasing the total dietary intake" as used in DSHEA;

- New methodologies to produce existing dietary ingredients; and
- Specific ingredient types, including proteins, enzymes, and microbials.

The meeting will include an opportunity for interested parties to provide oral comment for FDA's consideration. The final agenda will be posted on FDA's webpage, in the Meeting Link below.

Public Feedback Questions

1. What is your view on whether the phrase "dietary substance for use by man to supplement the diet by increasing the total dietary intake," as used in DSHEA, can include substances that have never been part of the diet?

2. When existing dietary ingredients are produced using emerging technologies such as synthesis, cell culture, precision fermentation, or recombinant production, at what point does a change in production methodology meaningfully alter the ingredient's identity, composition, or safety profile—and therefore warrant additional regulatory scrutiny or data submission?

3. How should production technologies be characterized, e.g., in a new dietary ingredient notification—including potential byproducts, impurities, and structural or functional variations—to ensure that FDA can adequately assess the resulting ingredient?

4. For ingredient types such as peptides, proteins, enzymes, and microbials, what scientific criteria are important in determining the identity of a substance? For these ingredient types, what scientific criteria are important in determining whether two substances are sufficiently similar to be considered the same dietary ingredient for regulatory purposes?

Meeting Link

Exploring the Scope of Dietary Supplement Ingredients Public Meeting Page

Comment to the Docket

Comments on Exploring the Scope of Dietary Supplement Ingredients should be submitted on or before April 27, 2026. Submit electronic comments to www.regulations.gov at docket number FDA-2026-N-2047. Written comments should be submitted to the Dockets Management Staff (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061, Rockville, MD 20852. All written comments should identify the docket number FDA-2026-N-2047.