



A Program with the
Colorado Attorney General
and the AARP Foundation



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Better Business Bureaus®
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"Healthcare" Fraud Tip Sheet

Scammers use many marketing ploys to try to trick you. These products are offered over the Internet with websites describing miracle cures and emails telling stories of overnight magic.

They all have one thing in common

They promise instant relief and give you a "money back guarantee" if you don't like the product. The scams might promise anti-aging medications, lotions for advanced arthritis, or even cancer cures.

RED FLAGS that it might be a Scam

- **Be suspicious** of claims of quick relief or healing that don't sound logical, such as "lose weight while you sleep" or "the tumor will be gone overnight".
- **Be skeptical** of ads that claim to cure chronic conditions such as diabetes or arthritis.
- **Be wary** when you are pushed to make a decision immediately.
- **Ask** questions, and if you don't get answers that you understand, just say "no".

Tips to Protect Yourself

- Talk with your doctor before you try it — or buy it.
- Remember that "natural" doesn't mean either safe or effective; there are many natural substances that shouldn't be ingested.
- A money-back guarantee isn't proof that a product works.
- Confirm the online seller's physical address.
- Check with the local Better Business Bureau (BBB) where the seller is based to see if there is a report against the company.

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