

33 Tweets • 2023-02-26 • **y** See on Twitter rattibha.com ●

1/30

Our "Protein Project" report is here

What is it? Unique public-health project funded by @paraschopra to analyze common/well-known protein supplements sold in India

Who did it? Me & team at The Liver Institute with world class, independent food/drugs testing Neogen Labs.



2/30 What did we analyze?

36 brands

- pure whey, whey-blend, whey & herbal blend, plant based and vegan types
- national, multinational and local brands
- all bought from authorized sellers or brand website
- none were spurious, authenticity of products checked

3/30 Which brands did we analyze?

Here they are, all 36 of them

All received with packing and seal intact

Opening the seal and pack removal for analysis was done by the lab personnel at the main lab before analysis and for sterile/safe storage for analysis repetitions

No	Product name	Manufacturer	
1	Protein super herbs women	Himalayan Organics	
2	High protein nutrishake vanilla	Oriflame	
3	Nutrabox whey	Nutrabox	
4	GNC whey	GNC	
5	Elite 100% whey	Dymatize	
6	Whey protein	One Science	
7	Whey gold	Muscle Blaze	
8	Whey protein	Muscle Blaze	
9	Vegan protein	Origin	
10	Ultra-soy protein	Forever Life	
11	Nutrella whey	Patanjali Ayurved	
12	Whey protein	Ultimate Nutrition	
13	Iso veda protein	Patanjali Ayurved	
14	Protinex	Danone	
15	Whey isolate	Optimum nutrition	
16	Quista pro whey	Himalaya Wellness	
17	B-protin	British Biologicals	
18	Resource high protein	Nestle Ltd	
19	Ensure plus	Abbott Ltd	
20	Premium protein matrix	Syntha 6	
21	Nitrotech whey	Muscletech	
22	Gold standard whey	Optimum nutrition	
23	Musclefood whey protein	Dr Morepen	
24	Frotein whey	Big Muscles	
25	Vegan protein	Big Muscles	
26	Whey essentials	Fast & Up	
27	My first protein	Healthkart	
28	Protein powder	Vestige	
29	Protein plus	Bakson's Homeo	
30	Protein powder	Elements	
31	Impact whey	My protein	
32	Personalized protein powder	Herbalife Nutrition	
33	Formula 1 shake	Herbalife Nutrition	
34	Protein & herbs	Oziva	
35	Weight plus protein	Dr. Vaidya's	
36	Nutrilite plant protein	Amway	

4/30 What analysis did we perform on these protein products?

Analysis of protein % (Kjeldahl method) Detection of fungal toxins/aflatoxins (HPLC) Pesticide (GC & LC MSMS) Heavy metals (ICP-MS) Complete GC-MSMS profiling Synthetic, anabolic steroids (GC-MS HP5 column)

5/30 Results - I

Protein content/protein % Advertised (labelled) vs identified (on analysis)

Of 36 products, nine had less than 40% protein content, while the rest had above 60%. The worst protein supplements concerning protein content were B-protein, with an advertised 40%.. 6/30 Results - I (cont)

but detected 10%; Big muscles Frotein Whey, with an advertised 76.5%, but detected a protein of 26.1%; Big Muscles Vegan Protein, with an advertised 81.3% and detected 19.4% protein. Overall, the best product with very high pure-whey-based protein..

7/30 Results - I (cont)

includes – Dymatize, Muscle Blaze, Ultimate Nutrition, Optimum Nutrition, Muscletech, and My protein brands, and those with the lowest protein content include Protinex, B-Protin, Ensure Plus, Big Muscles Vegan protein, and Bakson's Protein Plus.

8/30 Results - I (cont)

The highest protein content among plant/vegan brands includes Himalayan Organics, Oziva, Amway Nutrilite, and Elements. However, most of these plant proteins also contain multiple herbal supplements, which requires caution as herbal blended dietary.. 9/30 Results - I (cont)

..protein supplements are an upcoming cause of severe liver injury and liver failure. Patanjali Ayurved's Whey Protein products contained an excellent quantity of protein % but were all blended whey and contained a host of herbal and dietary supplements..

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10/30 Results - I (cont)
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..which could cause liver injury without additional data on safety.

The full list of protein supplements, their brands and labelled and detected protein percentages are given below.

110	Productifiame:	Miliauticcate/	Detected protein %	Capateo process.	MISHDening
- <b>1</b>	Protein super herbs women	Himalayan Organits	65.7	68.4	NO
2	High protein nutrishake vanilla	Oriflame	43.3	41.1	No
3	Nutrabox whey	Nutrabox	58.2	72.7	Yes, severe
1.8	GNC whey	GNC	63.9	68.6	Yes, mild
5	Elite 100% whey	Dymatize	73.3	71	No
6	Whey protein	One Science	68.4	83	Yes, severe
7	Whey gold	Muscle Blaze	76.1	82	Yes, mild
8	Whey protein	Muscle Blaze	71.7	76	Yes, mild
9	Vegan protein	Origin	63.6	64.1	No
10	Ultra-soy protein	Forever Life	50.7	52	No
11	Nutritia whey	Patanjali Ayurved	73.2	80	Yes, mild
12	Whey protein	Ultimate Nutrition	71.7	53	Yés; severe
13	tso yeda protein	Patanjali Ayurved	80.3	90	Yes, severa
14	Protines	Danone	34.2	34	No
15	Whey isplate	Optimum outrition	80.7	61	No
16	Quista pro whey	Himalaya Welfness	65.2	64.7	No
47	B-protin	British Biologicals	10.4	40	Yes; severe
18	Resource high protein	Nestle Ltd	48.5	45	No
19	Ensure plus	Abbott Ltd	19.6	19	No
20	Premium protein matrix	Syntha 6	46.3	47	No
21	Nitrotech whey	Muscletech	76.9	65.2	Yes, severe
22	Gold standard whey	Optimum nutrition	75.8	79	No.
23	Musclefood whey protein	Dr.Morepen	68.6	64.3	No
24	Frotein whey	Big Muscles	26.1	76.5	Yes, severe
25	Vegan protein	Big Muscles	19.4	81.3	Yes, severe
26	Whey essentials	Fast & Up	68.6	75	Yes, mild
27	My first protein	Healthkart	33,4	32	No
28	Protein powder	Vestige	79	82	No
29	Protein plus	Bakson's Homeo	8	16.7	Yes, mild
30	Protein powder	Elements	76.4	80	No:
31	Impact whey	My protein	71	76	Ne
32	Personalized protein powder	Herbalife Nutrition	84.5	82.7	NO
33	Formula 1 shake	Merballie Nutrition	35.7	36	No
34	Protein & herbs	Oziva	65.5	71.7	Yes, mild
35	Weight plus protein	Dr. Valdya's	20.5	25.8	Yes, Mild
36	Nutrilite plant protein	Amway	84.7	80	No

# 11/30 Results - I (end)

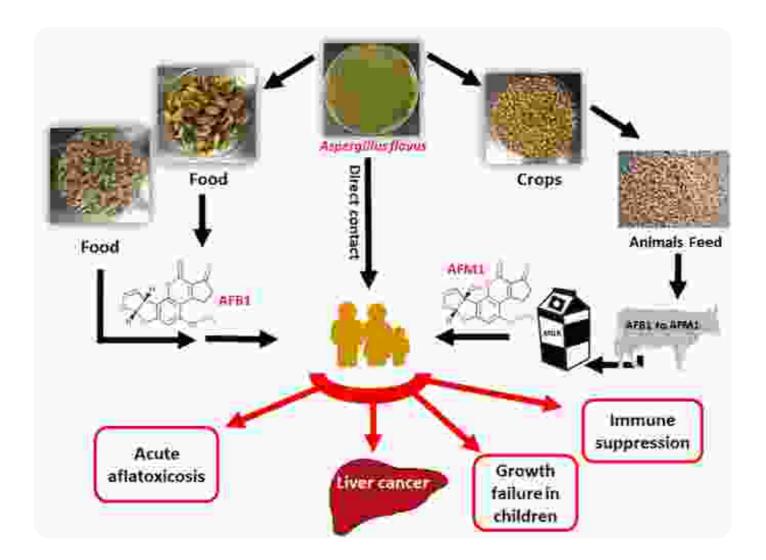
In this figure, we have shown how severe the mislabeling on the protein products is, with respect to protein content advertised on the bottle/package vs what is actually discovered on analysis. The gradient shows least to worst protein percent mislabeling

Product name	Manufacturer	Detected protein %	Labeled protein %	Difference
Nitrotech whey	Muscletech	76,9	65.2	-911-
Nutrilite plant protein	Алімау	84.7	80	-47
Musclefood whey protein	Dr Morepon	68,6	64,3	13
Resource high protein	Nestle Ltd	48.5	45	35
Elite 100% whey	Dymatize	73.3	71	23
ligh protein nutrishake vanilla	Orillame	43.3	41_1	12
Personalized protein powder	Herbalife Nutrition	84.5	82.7	1.8
My first protein	Healthkart	33.4	32	104
Ensure plus	Abbott Ltd	19,6	19	0.6
Quista pro whey	Himalaya Wellness	65.2	64.7	0,6
Protinex	Danone	34.2	34	0.2
Whey isolate	Optimum nutrition	80.7	81	-0.3
Formula 1 shake	Herbalife Nutrition	35.7	36	-0.3
Vegan protein	Origin	63.6	\$4.1	-0.5
Premium protein matrix	Syntha 6	46,3	47	-0.7
Ultra-soy protein	Forever Life	50.7	52	-1.3
Protein super herbs women	Himalayan Grganics	65.7	68.4	-2.7
Protein powder	Vestige	79	82	-3
Gold standard whey	Optimum nutrition	75.8	79	-3.2
Protein powder	Elements	76.4	80	3.6
Whey protein	Musele Blaze	71.7	76	্ৰণয়ে
GNC whey	GNC	63.9	68.6	:-4:27
Impact whey	My protein	71	78	-5
Weight plus protein	Dr. Vaidya's	20,5	25.8	-5.3
Whey gold	Muscle Blaze	76.1	82	-5.9
Protein & herbs	Oziva	85,5	717	-6.2
Whey essentials	Fast & Up	68.6	75	~6.4
Nutrella whey	Patanjali Ayurved	73,2	80	-6.8
Protein plus	Bakson's Homeo	: <b>#</b> :	16.7	-8,7
lso veda protein	Patanjali Ayurved	80.3	90	-9.7
Whey protein	Ultimate Nutrition	71.7	83	-11.5
Nutrabox whey	Nutrabox	58.2	72.7	>14.5
Whey protein	One Science	68.4	83	≥14.6
8-protin	British Biologicals	10,4	40	-29.6
Frotein whey	Big Muscles	26,1	76.5	10.6
Vegan protein	Big Muscles	19:4	81.5	

12/30 Results - II

Fungal toxins & Pesticide detection

Aflatoxin is a toxin produced by the fungus Aspergillus flavus, which can infect crops at pre- and post-harvest stages and negatively impact food quality. Exposure to aflatoxin can lead to reduced growth in children..



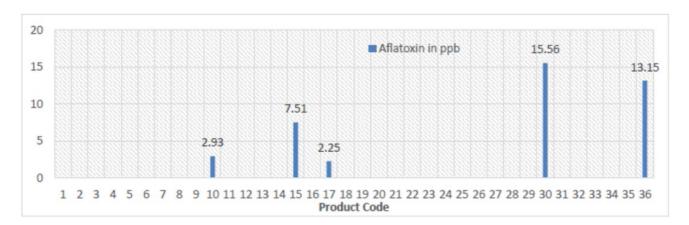
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13/30 Results - II (cont)
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liver damage, and liver cancer. Per guidelines, the limit of aflatoxin exposure in processed food such as cereals in humans is 10 ppb (parts per billion). We identified five out of 36 protein products with aflatoxin contamination. These included.. 14/30 Results - II (cont)

Ultra-soy protein by Forever Life (product code 10), Whey isolate by Optimum nutrition (code 15), B-protin by British Biologicals (code 17), Protein powder by Elements (code 30), and Nutrilite plant protein by Amway (code 36). Of these..

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15/30 Results - II (cont)
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the last two brands, Protein powder by Elements & Nutrilite plant protein by Amway, had aflatoxin above safe limits. Aflatoxin detection and corresponding product codes are shown below. For product code, please refer to tweet 3 or descriptions above.



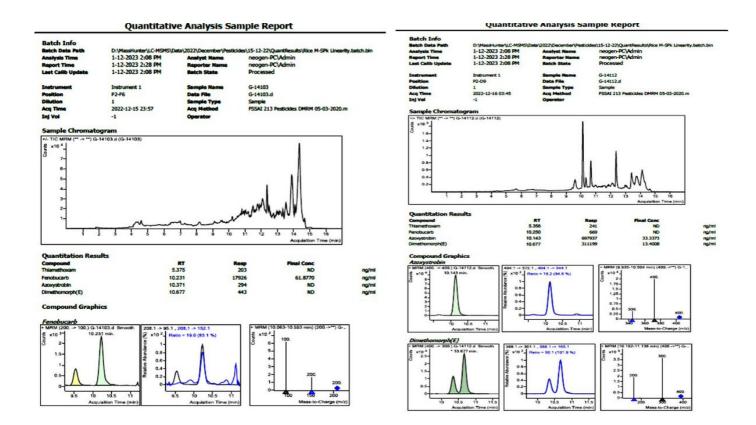
5 out of 36 samples were contaminated by aflatoxins. In two sample (Product code 30,36) aflatoxin was seen over the 10 ppb.

16/30 Results - II (cont)

Concerning pesticide detection, three out of 36 samples were contaminated by a trace amount of pesticide. Vegan Protein by Big Muscles contained Fenobucarb at 0.061 mg/kg; Protein & Herbs by Oziva contained Azoxystrobin at 0.033 mg/kg AND..

17/30 Results - II (end)

..Dimethomorph at 0.013 mg/kg & Weight Plus Protein by Dr. Vaidya's contained Thiamethoxam at 0.017 mg/kg. Only among protein brands that were purely plant/vegan was pesticide residue identified, & none were noted in pure whey or blended whey products.



18/30 Results - III

Heavy metal detection

In all 36 samples, Mercury and Thallium were not detected. Five samples contained trace levels of Arsenic. These included Ultra-soy protein by Forever Life; Protinex by Danone; My first protein by Healthkart; Protein powder.. 19/30 Results - III (cont)

..by Vestige, and Protein Plus by Bakson's Homeopathy. Ten products also had traces of Cadmium (very low levels). Most samples contained Lead at low levels, and Copper was found in all the samples at different levels, with the highest in..

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20/30 Results - III (cont)
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..Ultra-soy protein by Forever Life.

Complete results of heavy metal detection is below. I would be cautious about any amount of Lead in products as there is no safe level of Lead. Even high levels of Copper isnt ideal as it is toxic to brain/liver.

Product name	Manufacturar	Arsanic (mg/kg)	Cadmium (mg/kg)	Lead (mg/kg)	Mercury (mg/kg)	Thallium (mg/kg)	Copper (mg/kg)
Protein super herbs women	Himalayan Organics	BLQ	BLQ	0.086	BLQ	BLQ	1,61
High protein nutrishake vanilla	Oriflame	BLQ	BLQ	0.04	BLQ	BLQ	4.41
Nutrabox whey	Nutrabox	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ	1.51
GNC whey	GNC	BLQ	BLQ	0.038	BLQ	BLQ	2.94
Elite 100% whey	Dymatize	BLQ	0.029	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ	2.87
Whey protein	One Science	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ	1.92
Whey gold	Muscle Blaze	BLQ	0.043	BLO	BLQ	BLQ	3.65
Whey protein	Muscle Blaze	BLQ	0.047	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ	4.43
Vegan protein	Origin	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ	4.67
Ultra-soy protein	Forever Life	0.048	BLQ	0.033	BLQ	BLQ	30.61
Nutrella whey	Patanjali Ayurved	BLQ	0.028	0.028	6LQ	BLQ	11.66
Whey protein	Ultimate Nutrition	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ	2.38
Iso veda protein	Patanjall Ayurved	BLQ	BLO	0.29	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ
Protinex	Danone	0.053	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ	5.34
Whey isolate	Optimum outrition	BLQ	BLQ	0,04	BLO	BLQ	1.49
Quista pro whey	Himaløya Wellness	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ	2.97
B-protin	British Biologicals	BLQ	0.026	0.1	BLQ	BLQ	2.19
Resource high protein	Nestle Ltd	BLQ	BLQ	0.071	BLQ	BLQ	BLQ
Ensure plus	Abbott Ltd	810	BLQ	0,1	BLQ	BLQ	6.60
Premlum protein matrix	Syntha 6	BLQ	BLQ	0.19	BLQ	BLQ	3.76
Nitrotech whey	Muscletech	BLQ	BLO	0.11	BLQ	BLQ	2.40
Gold standard whey	Optimum nutrition	61.Q	BLQ	0.29	BLQ	BLQ	2.97
Musclefood whey protein Frotein whey	Dr Morepen Big Muscles	BLQ BLQ	BLQ	0.2	BLQ	BLQ	2,19 BLQ
Vegan protein	Big Muscles	BLQ	0.042	0.31	BLQ	BLQ	6.73
	Fast & Up	BLQ	BLQ	0.25	BLQ	BLQ	3,29
Whey essentials							
My first protein	Healthkart	0.075	0.037	0.32	BLQ	BLQ	4,48
Protein powder	Vestign	0.085	BLQ	0.23	BLQ	BLQ	9.34
Protein plus	Bakson's Homeo	0.031	BLQ	0.26	BLQ	BLQ	16.80
Protein powder	Elements	BLQ	0.026	0.28	BLQ	BLQ	8.80
Impact whey	My protein	BLQ	BLQ	0.23	BLQ	BLQ	1.49
Personalized protein powder	Herbalite Nutrition	BLQ	0.029	0.26	BLQ	BLQ	11.27
Formula 1 shake	Herbalife Nutrition	BLQ	BLQ	0.23	BLQ	BLQ	20.80
Protein & Herbs	Oziva	BLQ	BLQ	0.27	BLQ	BLQ	1.71
Weight plus protein	Dr. Vaidya's	BLQ	BLQ	0.22	BLQ	BLQ	5:33
sutrilite plant protein	Amway	BLQ	0.03	0.23	BLQ	BLQ	10.83

# 21/30 Results - III (end)

Companies may argue that Lead detected was within range as per regional rules, but fact is Lead has no safe limit of exposure. Also, notable is that there were brands WITHOUT any detectable Lead or metal for that matter showing good production quality. Bavilies 3 Psychiatrikt: 2016 1ul-Sep-27133204-214, doi: 10.22365/tpsych.2016.273.204.

### There is no safe threshold for lead exposure: A literature review

Thisomolecus " .5 Asseniou ", M Semakowi "

Affiliations 4 anoend PMID: 27837574 DOI: 10.22365/jpsych.2016/273/204 7/rm anticle

### Abstract

Lead was one of the most dangerous environmental traic substances for a long time in western countries, and this is still the case for many places on earth today. He neurotoxic potential is highly agnificant but its secure blood level concentration remains unknown. The aim of this study was to approach the above issue from the perspective of social psychiatry. A systematic search was made of Dialog and Elatastar interfaces for data regarding the neuropsychiatric complications of direct or chronic exposure to lead, and a review of the relevant literature was conducted using the databases Meanine, Empase, CAB Ginbal Health and Cochrane, Lead affects the cholinerpic, Oopaminerpic and alculativeraic systems thus intervening in the rexinal function of neurotransmism. The consequence of neuroformaty in the central memory system includes apoptosis and excitationally. Elirect as well aschronic exposure causes serious neurological symptoms and possibly constant cognitive impairment. Acute exceptielopathy, the most servicius expression of lead poisoning, accurs in blood level. concentrations over 100 µg/oL in equits and 60-100 µg/dL in children. Early symptoms of lead neurotoxicity include irritability, beadaches and difficulties in concentration in both children and adults. Continuous exposure in children produces neurobehavioral symptoms, such as decreased concentration, installity to follow instructions, difficulty to play games and fow ICE which are associated with concentrations of 10-35 µg/dL However, some studies damn their distinct and low lig can occur in contrantiations - 10 µg/ull. The commonest symptom in adults reperipheral resircusativy. with foot imp. Prenatal explosine to lead has been correlated with antisomal behavior and schizzphrenia. Long-term lead exposure causing low and medium lead concentration in blood has been linked to degression as well as generalized anxiety disorder and other behavioral disorders. High bload level concertrations correlate with pay divitic symplicing like delusions and hall existions but more rarely with psychofic synchromes. Cespite the fact that lead has been banned from gespine. peint and water tripes, guite significant quantities of lead still exist, pathoularly in deprived areas of modern offics, in transition zones and ony centers, and there are also great concentrations around lead mines and in developing countries; but even for the remaining ateas there is no safe threshold.

Conclusions: Lead was and still relate environmental factor that increases relationing and psychiatin, morbidity, make causes developmental disorders, especially in deprived areas. Prevention should be the single most important way of dealing with lead polisoning.

# 22/30 An introduction to final summary

Our final summary on best brands took into consideration all relative analysis outcomes, from protein content, mislabeling, heavy metal detection and contaminants. This is a personal opinion of the group and is in no way a recommendation.

23/30 FINAL SUMMARY Best whey protein- One Science & Ultimate Nutrition Best medium range whey- Nutrabox Best Vegan protein- Origin Best herbal whey- Himalaya[CAUTION] Worst whey brand- Big Muscles Worst plant-based- Amway Worst brands advertised as best- Protinex/Ensure/Bprotin

# 24/30 FINAL SUMMARY (cont)

Worst protein content- B-Protin, Ensure Plus, Bakson's Protein & Vegan by Big Muscles

Brands that need EXTREME caution- Protein by Elements/Nutrilite by Amway [fungal toxins]

Herbal blended proteins have MORE CONTAMINANTS/Pesticides than non-herbal.

25/30 FINAL SUMMARY (cont)

Only vegan/plant-based supplements had pesticide residue - none of pure whey or whey-blends had this issue

[Origin is the best in vegan category, is super clean]

Brands to be used WITH CAUTION

- Himalayan

Organics/Patanjali/Himalaya/Herbalife/Oziva...

# 26/30 FINAL SUMMARY (cont)

...because they contained at least one or more known and documented liver toxic agent such as green tea/curcumin/turmeric/ Ashwagandha/Garcinia extracts.

STAY AWAY FROM THESE - herbal+dietary supplements are a major cause of liver failure in the West.

### \* Liver Tramph 2022 FRD:2607,169-179, and 10,1000/11.26346. Epub.2021 (Max JP)

### Eight-Fold Increase in Dietary Supplement-Related Liver Failure Leading to Transplant Waitlisting Over the Last Quarter Century in the United States

Honoren Ghatur 1, Anni Maria 1, Sanni K PALLin 1, Lauren Geptere 1, Antona 2 Ceser 1, Euc S. Orman A. Ray voopiniurch 4, Stiekbar stubel Finikaga Challissin 4.

Affiliations, + expand 06/00\_34381346\_DOI: 05/002/0226246

### Abstract

We investigated the treposition infimumation outcomes of drug-induced acute liver failure strate; over the last dulider century in the Deltaid States United the United Network for Crossy Sharing (UNOS). database. We examined waitlisted natients in the UNOS database between 1995 and 2020 with a disensity of DIACE and assessed mends in englished, demodraphic and clinical storesteristics, and outcomes pren3 periods: 1995-2003, 2004-2012, and 2013-2020. Patients with GRACE and circle-like were classified as drug-induced abute-on-chronic liver failure, implicated agents including Boetaminophen (A#A9) and Nerbal or distary suppliaments (RDS); were assistanced There were 2146 individuals with DIALE during the study period. The observed demographic trends between the willfield and literationing included fewer pediatric patients (18.8% to 13.5%) but with in increasing number of make in non-ARAP DIALF (31.8% to 41.4%) and increased racial diversity in APAP CIALF Antimicropials remained the most common non-ARAP agents across all periods, but antieplieptics. propylithiotiradil, and initishnoom polisoning decreased, while H05a interlectly increased from 2.0% to 24 the of all non-APAP DIALF patients. The overall 5 year post-liver transplantation (LT) patient survival imperivate cignificantly over the 3 periods (69.9% to 77.4% to 83.3%) and was warkent for tooth APAP and non-ARAP DIALF. Over the last gliarter century, there has been an 8-fold increase in HDS-related. liver failure necessitating wartisting for niver transplantation in the United States. There are other important temporal trends during the study period, including improved survival following UT among both APAP and non-APAP DiALE patients.

27/30 Details of purchased products along with ingredient details is available at this link for download

You may use it to find the safest protein for your use, after consulting with your doctor.

https://file.io/N8gds52IDmSL

28/30

PS: We DID NOT detect significant steroidssynthetic/anabolic in any products analyzed.

Detailed analysis on full scan and trace level detection of steroids -synthetic or plant-based will be provided as supplementary data when this study is published after peer-review. 29/30 Before I conclude,

Whey protein is liver safe Whey protein does not cause kidney stones Pure whey/different blends of whey varieties are safe Whey + herbs -use with caution (ideally, don't use) Pure plant proteins (soy/pea) are safe, plant proteins + herbal blends aren't.

30/30

We hope you've found this thread helpful.

Follow me @theliverdr for more.

Like/Retweet the first tweet given below to spread this information far and wide, so that people who use protein supplements benefit from this information

Thank you in advance! Stay safe! Since this link to download seems like its not working, please find this new Google Drive link which allows you to download the file

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1
XSc8hqTEiMRKRJ1yqKNqojJU5hV3Gik0/edit?us
p=sharing&ouid=113987699695654238597&rtp
of=true&sd=true

Cost of analysis

This is so cool

A Twitter friend, @\_rohitag made a nice little web-app that helps you compare the brands we have analyzed, based on tested features.

Maybe this can be improved upon, more brands analyzed, more labs involved with help of public funding. https://protein-project.vercel.app/

# **Compare Protein Brands**

Select Product Brand

Dymatize - Elite 100% whey

#### VS

Compare Product Brand

Patanjali Ayurved - Nutrella whey 💉

### Results

	ET111 JOD# MAKEA	NOTESTLY WHEN	
Manufacturer	Dymatize	Petanjah Ayurved	
Labelled Protein	71≦	80%	
Actual Protein	73.3%	73,2%	
Mislabelled?	No	Hes. mild	
Arsenic	al q	BLG	
Catlium	(1.029	0.025	
Lead	BUQ	Ves	
Copper	No	No	
Recommended Buying?	Not Bail	Yes with Caution	

#### Notes

- Prescrible values of Recommended Buying? Tes [Fres will) Caution; [Not] Bad", Not.
- · Rescable values of Mislabelled? -- Yes, severe', Yes, mild, 'No.
- BLQ stands for Selow the Limit of Quantifications.

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