Galanin-like Peptide (GALP)

Also called: GALP; Galanin-like peptide

What it is

Galanin-like peptide (GALP) is an endogenous 60-amino-acid hypothalamic neuropeptide made in the arcuate nucleus and posterior pituitary; it shares a short stretch with galanin and activates the galanin receptors (GalR1-3, preferring GalR2). Its neurons carry leptin receptors (PMID 10875277), so it links the body's energy state to behaviour: it affects feeding and energy balance (PMIDs 11958845, 15620409), stimulates luteinizing hormone via LHRH neurons (PMID 11459819) and suppresses the thyroid axis (PMID 12624534). It is a research peptide, not an approved medicine, and has never been given to people as a treatment.

Approval status

Research Chemical. Not a drug: Drugs@FDA and the openFDA label endpoint hold no record, and FDA GSRS and ChEMBL hold no substance record for galanin-like peptide (searched November 6, 2026). It is an endogenous human peptide; there is no therapeutic development of GALP itself, and no registered interventional trial of giving it to people. It is studied as a metabolism-reproduction link and an anti-obesity lead, which remain preclinical.

Dosing, as printed in the page's Recommended Dosing box

No established human dose

Galanin-like peptide is an endogenous human peptide that has never been given to people as a treatment. The human evidence is its gene and anatomy; the functional studies are in animals and cells, where GALP is injected into the brain or applied to tissue at experimental amounts that do not carry over to people.

Educational information, not medical advice. None is a recommendation for you. An unapproved compound has no established safe or effective human dose, and products sold for "research use only" are not made or tested for people. Talk to a doctor before acting on anything on this site, including before you start, stop or change any medicine or dose.

Key human evidence

No human study is carded on the page; its 6 study cards are reviews, animal or cell work. The first 2:

• **GALP: a hypothalamic regulator of energy and reproduction** (Review, 2010). A review of galanin-like peptide, a 60-amino-acid neuropeptide from arcuate-nucleus and posterior-pituitary neurons that binds and activates the galanin receptors GalR1-3. GALP gene expression is regulated by metabolic signals — leptin, insulin, thyroid hormone, glucose — and GALP neurons connect to other feeding and reproductive circuits. The review concludes GALP has a role in energy homeostasis and reproduction, possibly via a still-unidentified GALP-specific receptor. **PMID 20558195**

• **GALP in feeding, energy metabolism and reproduction** (Review, 2005). A review of galanin-like peptide in the brain. Produced in the arcuate nucleus, GALP forms networks with several feeding-related peptide neurons and is involved in the control of food intake and energy balance — so may matter for obesity — and it regulates plasma luteinizing hormone by activating GnRH neurons, placing it in the reproductive system as well. The review summarises GALP's roles across these physiological systems. **PMID 15620409**

Interactions

A PubMed search for interaction studies of this compound with any drug (November 6, 2026, 13 records) found none in people. That is not evidence that it is safe to combine with anything.

Side effects and cautions

Reported side effects	Contraindications and cautions
• No human adverse-event data exist: no published study has administered galanin-like peptide to people • In animals, acute central GALP stimulates feeding and produced anxiety-like behaviour (PMID 11958845) — effects of a signalling peptide, not a safety profile • GALP affects the reproductive (LH) and thyroid axes (PMIDs 11459819, 12624534), so endocrine effects would be expected if it were administered • Material sold online as 'galanin-like peptide' or 'GALP' is an unregulated research chemical of unverified content	• Not a medicine: no FDA application or label, and no approval anywhere • No human dosing, interaction, pregnancy or long-term safety data exist for administered GALP • It is a laboratory research peptide, not a treatment • Its roles in appetite, reproduction and the thyroid axis are physiology, not a basis for use

Five questions to ask

1. Galanin-like Peptide (GALP) is listed here as "Research Chemical". What does the evidence on this sheet mean for someone in my situation, and is there an approved treatment I should consider instead?
2. Here are the medicines and supplements I take. Do any of them interact with Galanin-like Peptide (GALP)? This sheet records none published, which does not mean none exist.
3. Which side effects should make me stop and call you, for example no human adverse-event data exist: no published study has administered galanin-like peptide to people?
4. Do any of the cautions on this sheet apply to me, such as: Not a medicine: no FDA application or label, and no approval anywhere?
5. What should we check before I start and while I am on it (blood tests, blood pressure, weight), and how often?

Grey Peptides is a vendor-neutral encyclopedia: it sells nothing and names no seller. This sheet is educational, not medical advice, and is not a prescription.