

RESEARCH USE ONLY. Laboratory explainer for qualified scientific settings. Not for human or veterinary use, consumption, injection, or administration.

Answer. Research Use Only (RUO) means the material is supplied for laboratory research, in-vitro testing, and analytical work. It is not a drug, not a supplement, not a veterinary product, and not FDA approved. A CoA does not change that classification.

How RUO sits next to other categories

Category	Who it is for	What documentation means	What it is not
Research Use Only (RUO)	Qualified laboratories and researchers	Identity, purity, and related analytical parameters on a lot CoA	Permission to use in humans or animals
Analytical / chemical standard	Calibrating instruments and methods	Stated purity and uncertainty for a method	A finished medicine
GMP research or clinical material	Sponsors working under a quality system for a defined study	Manufacturing controls tied to a protocol	An approved marketed drug by itself
FDA-approved drug	Prescribed patients, via licensed care	Labeling, approval, and pharmacovigilance	The same thing as an RUO catalog item
Compounded copy (503A / 503B)	Lawful compounding under those statutes	Pharmacy records — not the same as an NDA label	A substitute RUO designation

What a receiving lab should record

- The vial and the CoA say Research Use Only, and the lot numbers match. Lot format is ET-###-XX (example ET-003-RT): ET = Emerald Tides, ### = production run number, XX = production code.
- The material entered a laboratory inventory — not a clinic stockroom.
- Handling follows the institution’s chemical-hygiene plan and SOP.
- Third-party testing (for example JANOSHIK or BT Labs) is filed as analytics, not as approval.

What RUO does not authorize

RUO labeling does not authorize human or veterinary use, consumption, injection, or administration. It does not convert a research reagent into a medicine. It does not mean “safe if the purity number is high.” Intended use is read from the whole record: product pages, documents, and how the buyer is told to handle the lot.

Short questions

Is a CoA the same as FDA approval?

No. A CoA reports selected tests on one lot.

Can RUO material be used in animals?

Only if the institution’s own approved research protocol and IACUC rules allow that specific work. Supplier RUO copy is not that approval.

Does “not for human consumption” on a footer fix lifestyle claims elsewhere?

No. Reviewers read the full file.