About BPA: Weight of Scientific Evidence Supports the Safety of BPA

Government and scientific bodies around the globe have extensively evaluated the weight of scientific evidence on bisphenol A (BPA) and have declared that BPA is safe as used, including in materials that come into contact with food, such as reusable food-storage containers and linings in metal cans.

Government agencies that have recently ruled on BPA safety include:

- U.S. Food and Drug Administration (February 2018)
- Food Standards Australia New Zealand (February 2018)
- South Korean Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (March 2016)
- German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (February 2015)
- European Food Safety Authority (January 2015)
- Health Canada (September 2012)
- Swiss Federal Office of Public Health (December 2011)
- Japanese National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (July 2011)

Safety of BPA Confirmed by Government Agencies and Scientific Experts

U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

In February 2018, the U.S. National Toxicology Program released the results of the CLARITY Core Study, the largest study ever done on BPA and conducted by scientists at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Dr. Stephen Ostroff, Deputy Commissioner for Foods and Veterinary Medicine at FDA, released a statement noting, "...our initial review supports our determination that currently authorized uses of BPA continue to be safe for consumers." The results are consistent with previous studies that indicate BPA is unlikely to cause health effects at the very low levels to which people are exposed and supports the FDA's question "Is BPA Safe?" with a clear answer - "Yes."

More information on BPA is available at the following Web sites:

FDA:
https://www.fda.gov/food/ingredientspackaginglabeling/foodadditivesingredients/ucm064437.htm

Health Canada:
https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/food-nutrition/food-safety/packaging-materials/bisphenol.html

EFSA:
http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/press/news/150121

ACC:
www.plastics.americanchemistry.com/BPA

www.factsaboutBPA.org

Or by contacting:

Steven G. Hentges, Ph.D.
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American Chemistry Council

Email: steve_hentges@americanchemistry.com

Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ)

In February 2018, FSANZ, an independent statutory agency responsible for setting food standards in the two countries, reaffirmed the safety of BPA and stated: "the overwhelming weight of scientific opinion is that there is no health or safety issue at the levels people are exposed to."

South Korean Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (MFDS)

In March 2016, MFDS published its risk assessment of BPA. The researchers measured the Korean population's exposure to BPA and found very low levels of exposure. MFDS concluded: "There is no health concern for any age group from current levels of exposure to BPA."

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

In January 2015, following a comprehensive re-evaluation of BPA exposure and toxicity, EFSA's scientific experts concluded that "BPA poses no health risk to consumers of any age group (including unborn children, infants and adolescents) at current exposure levels." Going beyond previous assessments, EFSA evaluated exposure to BPA not only from food, but also from a range of other potential sources.

Health Canada

In September 2012, Health Canada released an updated assessment of BPA: "Current dietary exposure to BPA through food packaging uses is not expected to pose a health risk to the general population, including newborns and young children."

World Health Organization (WHO) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations

In September 2011, an international panel of experts organized by WHO and FAO released a report of the latest scientific evidence on BPA and concluded that "initiation of public health measures would be premature." The experts also concluded that BPA does not accumulate in the body, is rapidly eliminated in urine, and that it is difficult to interpret the relevance of studies claiming adverse health effects from BPA.

Japanese National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST)

In July 2011, AIST concluded that "the risk of BPA with regard to human health was believed to be very small." This conclusion is consistent with AIST's previous 2005 BPA risk assessment. Of note, in its 2011 assessment, the data uncertainty factor was reduced to 25 as compared to 100 in the previous assessment, indicating higher confidence in the scientific data supporting the 2011 conclusion.

Advisory Committee of the German Society for Toxicology

In its April 2011 review published in Critical Reviews in Toxicology, the Advisory Committee concluded that "BPA exposure represents no noteworthy risk to the health of the human population, including newborns and babies." After reviewing all available evidence and controversial arguments, the Committee concluded that the "current Tolerable Daily Intake (TDI) level for BPA is adequately justified." In its specific evaluation of studies reporting that low doses of BPA cause adverse health effects in laboratory animals, the Committee found that these studies "failed to meet minimal quality criteria for experimental design and statistical analysis" and that their results were inconsistent with more robust studies on similar endpoints.