



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.



Regulatory agencies that have recently ruled on the safety of BPA include:

- Health Canada (September 2012)
- Food Standards Australia New Zealand (April 2012)
- U.S. Food and Drug Administration (March 2012)
- Hong Kong Centre for Food Safety (December 2011)
- European Food Safety Authority (December 2011)
- Swiss Federal Office of Public Health (December 2011)
- Japanese National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (July 2011)
- German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (May 2011)
- European Union (June 2008)



Safety of BPA Confirmed by Regulatory Authorities and Scientific Experts

Health Canada

In September 2012, Health Canada released an updated assessment of BPA. Experts concluded that “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.”

U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

In a March 2012 update, FDA stated that it has found “no convincing evidence” to support the belief that bisphenol A (BPA) is a hazard to people.

As noted by FDA: “We make public health decisions based on a careful review of well performed studies, not based on claims or beliefs.” Based on its objective review, FDA’s assessment is that “the scientific evidence at this time does not suggest that the very low levels of human exposure to BPA through the diet are unsafe.” To address remaining uncertainties about the safety of BPA, FDA is carrying out in-depth studies with the National Toxicology Program. The studies published to date provide additional strong support for the safety of BPA in food-contact materials.





More information on BPA is available at the following websites:

HHS & FDA:

www.hhs.gov/safety/bpa
www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm297954.htm

Health Canada:

www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/secureit/packag-embal/bpa/bpa_hra-ers-2012-09-eng.php

EFSA:

www.efsa.europa.eu/en/topics/topic/bisphenol.htm

ACC:

www.plastics.americanchemistry.com/BPA
www.factsaboutBPA.org

Or by contacting:

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Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ)

In April 2012, FSANZ, an independent statutory agency responsible for setting food standards in the two countries, reaffirmed the safety of BPA and stated: "The weight of scientific evidence indicates that exposure to BPA in food does not present a significant human health and safety issue at current exposure levels."

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

In December 2011, EFSA updated their comprehensive scientific assessment of BPA that had been conducted by a panel of independent scientific experts from throughout the European Union. The update reaffirmed the panel's previous conclusion (September 2010) that they "could not identify any new evidence which would lead them to revise the current Tolerable Daily Intake," which is a safe intake level.

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

In September 2011, an international panel of experts organized by WHO and FAO released a report on their review of all 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.

