

Veille Internet BPA du 28/11/2011 au 4/12/2011

Bisphénol A (BPA) sur Internet : Faits marquants

ARTICLE EN FRANÇAIS

- Europe1.fr - Le bisphénol A cherche un remplaçant p2-3

ARTICLES EN ANGLAIS

- webmd.com - **Study: BPA Is in Wide Variety of Paper Products**
Une nouvelle étude montre que le bisphénol A (BPA) est aussi présent dans une grande variété de produits en papier, y compris les serviettes, le papier toilette, les tickets, les emballages alimentaires, les journaux et le papier d'imprimante. p4-5

- Marketwatch.com - **UCLA Researchers Studying Common Chemical in Plastics for Potential Link to Breast Cancer**
Une équipe de chercheurs de l'Université de Californie Los Angeles (UCLA) est en train d'étudier si le BPA peut stimuler la croissance d'une tumeur du cancer du sein. "Susan G. Komen for the Cure(R)", la plus grande organisation mondiale dédiée au cancer du sein, finance ces travaux de recherche à hauteur de 450 000 dollars.

- Courthousenews.com - **Enviros Demand Records on Bisphenol A**
Le "Natural Resources Defense Council" affirme dans une plainte fédérale que l'Agence de sécurité alimentaire américaine (FDA) refuse de divulguer des documents qui concernent son incapacité à réglementer la présence de bisphénol A, une substance cancérigène, dans les emballages alimentaires. p7

- Marketwatch.com - **European Food Safety Authority Once Again Reaffirms the Safety of BPA**
L'Autorité Européenne de Sécurité des Aliments (EFSA) rejette les inquiétudes de la France concernant la sécurité du Bisphénol A. Selon elle, l'exposition au BPA via l'alimentation ne poserait pas de risques pour la santé humaine. p8



Le bisphénol A cherche un remplaçant

Par Europe1.fr et Eve Roger

Publié le 2 décembre 2011



Un rapport de l'Agence sanitaire française publié mardi a confirmé la nocivité de cette substance, y compris à faible dose. © Maxppp

ENQUETE - A partir de janvier 2014 ce composant chimique sera interdit de tous les emballages.

L'Autorité européenne de sécurité des aliments (EFSA) reste sur sa position. Selon l'organisme, il n'est pas question d'interdire au niveau européen ce composant [chimique utilisé dans les emballages alimentaires, a-t-il déclaré mercredi](#). Mais ce n'est qu'un rappel, en septembre 2010 déjà, [l'EFSA ne préconisait pas de mesures particulières](#) pour réduire l'exposition de la population à cette substance très répandue dans les objets de la vie quotidienne.

Pour rappel, le Bisphénol A est suspecté de perturber la fertilité féminine, de provoquer maladies cardiovasculaires et diabète, mais les dangers pour la santé ne sont pas encore scientifiquement avérés. L'agence européenne attend donc la publication de nouvelles études, qui doivent être publiées récemment aux Etats-Unis pour réexaminer son avis en 2012.

Des tests laborieux

Pour les industriels français le temps presse. Le composant [sera interdit en France à compter de 2014](#) dans tous les contenants alimentaires comme [les bouteilles en plastique rigide, des boîtes de conserve ou des cannettes](#). Les fabricants sont donc sur les dents pour trouver le produit miracle qui pourrait remplacer le fameux bisphénol A. Des tests sont effectués dans quelques centres de recherche en France. Europe 1 a pu accéder à l'un de ces endroits très fermé.

Pour l'heure, les recherches sont peu fructueuses. Certains industriels essayent jusqu'à dix produits par semaine. "Ici nous avons quelques boîtes de pâté, ici des boîtes de poissons, ici de la soupe, ça ce sont des légumes, ça des haricots verts. On les entrepose dans une durée qui est variable entre trois mois et cinq ans", raconte l'un des chercheurs du laboratoire. Objectif : voir si le vernis de substitutions au bisphénol A résiste au temps.

"Ce vernis là ne convient absolument pas " :



Chaque matin, c'est l'heure de vérité. Les boîtes sont ouvertes et observées. Verdict pour une boîte de carottes râpées au vinaigre : "ce qu'on voit très précisément c'est que sur une partie de la boîte, on a un phénomène de corrosion qui s'est développé. (...) Il est clair que ce vernis là ne convient absolument pas à cette utilisation. Ça c'est un candidat que l'on va rejeter dans la liste des vernis de substitution potentiels", explique l'un des chercheurs du laboratoire.

Certains substituts déjà trouvés

Plus les aliments sont acides, plus il est difficile de trouver un vernis assez résistant. Les salsifis et le soja correspondent aux légumes les plus décapants. A l'autre bout de la chaîne, on retrouve le maïs ou les haricots verts. Pour ces légumes, un substitut a déjà été trouvé. Pour le reste, les recherches doivent s'accélérer. Les tests ne se feront plus sur des centaines de boîtes mais sur des millions d'exemplaires. Objectif : commercialiser des conserves dans la légalité à compter du 1er janvier 2014.

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Study: BPA Is in Wide Variety of Paper Products

Chemical Bisphenol A Is Found in Napkins, Toilet Paper, and Cash Register Receipts

By [Brenda Goodman, MA](#)
WebMD Health News

Reviewed by [Laura J. Martin, MD](#)



Dec. 2, 2011 -- It seems there's no escaping the chemical bisphenol A (BPA), which is used to make plastics like water bottles and to coat the insides of aluminum cans.

Now a new study shows that BPA is also in a wide variety of paper products, including napkins, toilet paper, tickets, food wrappers, newspapers, and printer paper.

"The concentrations are very high in the paper products," says study researcher Kurunthachalam Kannan, PhD, a research scientist at the New York State Department of Health.

Kannan tested more than 200 paper samples from 15 different types of products.

He found BPA levels in paper that were 100 to 1 million times higher than amounts detected in canned and packaged foods.

The study is published in the journal *Environmental Science and Technology*.

Researchers say that because only a fraction of that is absorbed through the [skin](#), most people probably pick up far less BPA handling paper than they do from their [diets](#).

But those amounts may wind up being significant for people like cashiers or printers who have to touch a lot of BPA-tainted paper as part of their jobs.

"We've been focused on food, but there could be certain groups of people that could be exposed through other routes and other sources," says Joseph Braun, PhD, a research fellow at the Harvard School of Public Health, who is studying how BPA may affect kids' behavior. He was not involved in the latest study.

In Braun's studies, [pregnant](#) women who worked as cashiers had BPA levels that were about 30% higher than pregnant women who had different kinds of jobs.

BPA in Recycled Paper

How did BPA get into paper? Probably recycling, researchers say.

A thin coating of powdered BPA is used on some kinds of heat-sensitive paper, like cash register receipts, shipping labels, and lottery tickets.

Researchers estimate that tossed thermal paper contributes about 33.5 tons of BPA to the environment each year.

About 30% of thermal paper winds up being recycled, introducing BPA into many different kinds of items.

That's concerning, researchers say, because BPA is chemically similar to the hormone [estrogen](#). It has been linked to problems with reproduction and sexual development, to behavioral and developmental problems in young children, and to some kinds of [cancer](#).

Experts say such studies are suggestive, but not conclusive. And they insist that there's no danger from BPA in paper.

"These are trivial exposures," far below the tolerable safe levels of BPA set by the Environmental Protection Agency, says John Heinze, PhD, executive director of the Environmental Health Research Foundation in Chantilly, Va., a nonprofit organization that does research for the American Chemistry Council, an industry group. "They don't really raise any concerns for safety. That's really what their data show."

How Much BPA Do People Pick Up From Paper?

For the study, researchers tested 103 different thermal receipts collected from supermarkets, banks, libraries, gas stations, and restaurants in seven U. S. cities, South Korea, Vietnam, and Japan. Japan phased out the use of BPA in receipts in 2001.

Researchers also tested 14 other kinds of paper products including flyers, magazines, bus and train tickets, envelopes, newspapers, food wrappers and cartons, airplane boarding passes, luggage tags, printing paper, business cards, napkins, paper towels, and toilet paper.

Ninety-four percent of the thermal receipts tested positive for BPA, including some receipts that claimed to be BPA-free.

The levels of BPA detected on the receipts were much higher than for other paper products.

The highest concentration of BPA found among other kinds of paper was in tickets, followed by newspapers.

Researchers then estimated how much paper products might contribute to a person's total daily BPA exposure.

Cutting BPA Exposure

Based on their models, if an average person handled thermal receipts twice each day, and other kinds of paper five to 10 times a day, they'd get about 2% of their total daily exposure to BPA from paper products.

For cashiers, it was assumed they would touch receipts around 150 times a day, which could contribute as much as 51% of their daily BPA exposure.

Researchers say that if people want to cut their exposure to BPA in paper, they should be careful about how they handle receipts.

If you don't need one, don't take it, Kannan says.

If you do need a receipt, some retailers will email it.

If a hard copy is your only option, head to the sink soon after. "Whenever I touch a thermal receipt paper, immediately I wash my hands," Kannan says.

For cashiers, he says, wearing gloves would probably help cut the amount of BPA absorbed through the skin.

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UCLA Researchers Studying Common Chemical in Plastics for Potential Link to Breast Cancer, with Research Funding from Susan G. Komen for the Cure(R)

Separate Grant to UCLA Aimed at Killing Spreading Cancer Cells; Part of Komen's \$66 Million in 2011 Global Research and Program Funding

DALLAS, Nov 30, 2011 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- A team of UCLA scientists is studying whether a chemical commonly found in plastic bottles and food packaging can be linked to breast cancer, with research funding announced today by Susan G. Komen for the Cure(R), the world's largest breast cancer organization.

The \$450,000 UCLA study to Susan Krum, Ph.D., will investigate whether the chemical, Bisphenol A (BPA) can stimulate breast cancer tumor growth. BPA has been linked to cancer in animal and laboratory studies and is said to mimic estrogen, leading to questions about whether BPA can be linked to breast cancer development in humans. Komen hopes to bring more clarity to the BPA controversy with this research.

"Our research investments are geared to bringing results to the table -- and soon -- for the most difficult questions remaining in breast cancer," said Ambassador Nancy G. Brinker, founder and CEO of Komen for the Cure.

Another \$180,000 grant to UCLA researcher Noriyuki Kasahara, M.D., Ph.D., is aimed at treatments that could stop cancer cells from metastasizing to the brain.

The UCLA grants are part of Komen's \$66 million investment in new research, patient support and scientific conferences in 2011, with \$10.1 million in new research projects earmarked to California institutions this year alone. Komen is currently funding 68 active grants totaling \$30 million in California. Since 1982, Komen has invested \$685 million to global breast cancer research.

Komen President Elizabeth Thompson said the Los Angeles grants address key areas of focus for Komen: understanding environmental factors that may be linked with breast cancer, and developing treatments for aggressive and metastatic disease. "These grants tie squarely to our mission to fund cutting-edge science along the entire cancer continuum -- from prevention to early diagnostics, more effective treatments, disparities in outcomes, and answers for aggressive and metastatic disease," she said.

The 2011 Komen research grants augment more than \$93 million in community grants provided in local communities by Komen's 120 Affiliates nationwide. Seventy-five percent of funds raised by Komen Affiliates stay in the community for screening, treatment, education and support programs; the rest helps fund national research programs.

"The research projects we're investing in today are critical to the momentum we've built during the last 30 years in our quest to understand, and ultimately solve, the many questions surrounding breast cancer," said Eric Winer, M.D., Komen's chief scientific advisor, chief of the Division of Women's Cancers at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Professor of Medicine at Harvard University.

SOURCE: Susan G. Komen for the Cure

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Courthouse News Service

Enviros Demand Records on Bisphenol A

MANHATTAN (CN) - The Natural Resources Defense Council claims the U.S. Food & Drug Administration refuses to release documents on its regulation, or failure to regulate, carcinogenic bisphenol A in food packaging. The NRDC claims that a federal study in 2008 found bisphenol in the urine of 93 percent of the Americans tested.

Bisphenol A (BPA) occurs widely in plastic drink bottles, and is believed to leach into the liquid inside.

In its federal FOIA complaint, the NRDC says the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found BPA in urine samples of 93 percent of Americans it tested.

"Scientific evidence links small doses of BPA to harmful health effects, including reproductive abnormalities, altered neurodevelopment, and cancer," according to the complaint.

The NRDC says the FDA's response to its FOIA request was inadequate. It wants to see more documents, "forthwith and without further delay."

It is represented by house counsel Mitchell Bernard in New York and Nicholas Morales in Washington, D.C.

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European Food Safety Authority Once Again Reaffirms the Safety of BPA

International Food Safety Agency Rejects Concerns Raised in France; Finds No Human Health Risk from Dietary Exposure to BPA

WASHINGTON, Dec 01, 2011 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- The North American Metal Packaging Alliance, Inc. (NAMPA) welcomes another definitive opinion delivered today by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) supporting the safety of bisphenol A (BPA). In its latest review of the science on BPA, the third such review since 2006, EFSA reaffirmed its 2010 assessment that BPA presents no risk to people from food packaging.

"Time after time when the comprehensive body of research on BPA is evaluated by unbiased scientific experts, the conclusion is the same -- that BPA does not pose any risk to infants, children, or adults from exposure through food contact applications," said Dr. John M. Rost, NAMPA Chairman. "This latest affirmation of BPA's safety in food packaging should prompt consumers to question the motivation behind the negative publicity on BPA, a material that not only protects food, but that repeatedly has been found safe by expert regulatory bodies worldwide."

Over the past several weeks, EFSA conducted a thorough review of new scientific studies. This review was conducted at the request of the European Commission, following recent concerns raised by a report from the French food agency (ANSES). Responding to those concerns, EFSA noted that ANSES had conducted a limited hazard identification process, while EFSA had conducted a full risk assessment on BPA.

Based on this latest assessment, EFSA upheld the finding of its 2010 review that the existing tolerable daily intake (TDI) for BPA would "protect all human populations for lifetime exposure to this substance through diet." EFSA also indicated plans to establish a multidisciplinary working group to monitor and review new scientific studies on BPA.

"BPA-based epoxy coatings used in metal packaging enable high temperature sterilization that eliminates the danger of food poisoning or contamination," continued Dr. Rost. "These coatings are extremely effective, thoroughly tested, and safe, as reiterated by this recent EFSA evaluation. Expert risk assessments such as this latest work by EFSA should be what guides policy actions on BPA, not political agendas."

A full report is available at <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/press/news/111201.htm> .

About NAMPA

The North American Metal Packaging Alliance, Inc. and its members support sound science and trust the scientific review process that has protected our food supply for decades. For further information, visit www.metal-pack.org .

SOURCE: North American Metal Packaging Alliance, Inc. (NAMPA)

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