



## 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:



- Japanese National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (July 2011)
- Hong Kong Centre for Food Safety (January 2011)
- Food Standards Australia New Zealand (November 2010)
- European Food Safety Authority (September 2010)
- German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (July 2010)
- U.S. Food and Drug Administration (January 2010)
- Swiss Federal Office of Public Health (February 2009)
- Health Canada (October 2008)
- European Union (June 2008)



## Safety of BPA Confirmed by Regulatory Authorities and Scientific Experts

### Japanese National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) - August 2011

In its most recent comprehensive BPA risk assessment, 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 - April 2011

In its review published in *Critical Reviews in Toxicology*, the Advisory Committee concluded, "BPA exposure represents no noteworthy risk to the health of the human population, including newborns and babies." Furthermore, the Committee found, "To date, more than 5,000 studies on BPA have been published. It is obvious that this should be enough information to resolve the controversy, but nevertheless this has not yet been achieved and those not directly involved in BPA research are usually puzzled by the never-ending and sometimes emotional debate." 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.

### World Health Organization (WHO) and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) - November 2010

WHO and FAO jointly held an expert meeting to assess the safety of BPA. The meeting included representatives from the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), Health Canada, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The experts concluded that levels of BPA in the human body "are very low, indicating that BPA is not accumulated in the body and is rapidly eliminated." The gathering of global experts concluded that at this time no public health measures are needed.

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

HHS & FDA:

[www.hhs.gov/safety/bpa](http://www.hhs.gov/safety/bpa)

[www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/  
PublicHealthFocus](http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/PublicHealthFocus)

Health Canada:

[www.chemicalsubstanceschimiques.  
gc.ca/fact-fait/bisphenol-a-eng.php](http://www.chemicalsubstanceschimiques.gc.ca/fact-fait/bisphenol-a-eng.php)

EFSA:

[www.efsa.europa.eu/en/topics/  
topic/bisphenol.htm](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/topics/topic/bisphenol.htm)

ACC:

[http://plastics.  
americanchemistry.com/BPA](http://plastics.americanchemistry.com/BPA)  
[www.factsaboutBPA.org](http://www.factsaboutBPA.org)

Or by contacting:

Steven G. Hentges, Ph.D.

Polycarbonate/BPA Global Group  
American Chemistry Council

Email: [steve\\_hentges@  
americanchemistry.com](mailto:steve_hentges@americanchemistry.com)

### European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) - September 2010

EFSA reviewed more than 800 new studies and confirmed its earlier position that BPA-based polycarbonate and epoxy food-contact materials are safe as used. This followed similar EFSA statements in July and October 2008, and was based on its January 2007 release of a comprehensive scientific assessment of BPA conducted by a panel of independent scientific experts. In the 2007 review, EFSA increased by five times the safe intake level for BPA (known as the Tolerable Daily Intake or TDI). Extensive data from biomonitoring studies conducted by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) show that typical human exposure to BPA from all sources is approximately 1,000 times below the safe intake level set by EFSA.

### U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) - January 2010

In an update on BPA, the FDA Deputy Commissioner stated that "if [FDA] thought it was unsafe, we would be taking strong regulatory action." FDA made it clear that BPA "is not proven to harm children or adults..." This is consistent with FDA's earlier draft safety assessment from August 2008, which concluded overall that "an adequate margin of safety exists for BPA at current levels of exposure from food contact uses, for infants and adults."

