



ABSTRACT

## How to understand bisphenol A (BPA) information correctly: Is it safe for human health

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Bisphenol A (BPA) is a synthetic chemical widely used in consumer products like polycarbonate plastics and epoxy resins. This presentation examines the sources, prevalence, and health impacts of BPA, alongside regulatory measures to mitigate its risks. BPA, not naturally occurring, enters the environment via industrial waste and consumer product degradation. Research has detected BPA in water, air, soil, and food products. Findings reveal BPA concentrations in food items, with a case study from Nigeria showing varying levels in canned and fresh foods. The synthesis and degradation of polycarbonate plastics identify UV light and high temperatures as factors contributing to BPA release. BPA migration from packaging into food and beverages depends on storage conditions, such as temperature and duration. Health concerns highlight BPA's role as an endocrine disruptor, potentially leading to various diseases. While BPA can be metabolized and excreted, some may accumulate due to metabolic issues. Regulatory measures, particularly in the European Union, have evolved to address BPA risks. Actions include bans on BPA in certain products and strict migration limits for food contact materials. The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) recently lowered the tolerable daily intake (TDI) for BPA to 0.2 ng/kg body weight, significantly below previous limits, reflecting heightened health concerns. Recommendations include regular updates to food packaging safety regulations based on the latest research. Collaborative scientific efforts are crucial to developing effective, evidence-based regulations that protect public health without unfairly benefiting specific industry players.

**Keywords:** bisphenol A (BPA), polycarbonate degradation, chemical migration, food safety regulations

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