

Leading Toxicology Journal Publishes Groundbreaking Article on Toxins in Plastics

The *Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health Part B: Critical Reviews* is proud to announce a landmark article focused on new research on the chemical bisphenol A (BPA) and the harmful effects it can have on human health as an endocrine blocker. The article published February in Volume 11, Issue 2 of the journal. For **FREE** access to the article “Derivation of a Bisphenol a Oral Reference Dose (RfD) and Drinking-Water Equivalent Concentration” by Calvin C. Willhite, Gwendolyn L. Ball, and Clifton J. McLellan, and to learn more about the **Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health, Part B**, please visit www.informaworld.com/10937404

This seminal article reports the findings of Dr. Calvin Willhite of the California Environmental Protection Agency after a joint two-year study with NSF International, a not-for-profit public health and safety organization. The goal of the study was to recalibrate the decades-old BPA reference dose that is considered the safe amount for human consumption by compiling and reexamining the scientific data produced by more than 4,000 previous studies. The resultant data does not support the current Environmental Protection Agency reference dose level—in fact it suggests that BPA is much less able to act as an endocrine blocker in humans than previously thought. The paper reports that ninety-nine percent of human exposure to BPA is oral, and after ingestion humans detoxify and excrete it much more efficiently than earlier studies suggest.

“We must go back and consider the route of exposure,” says Dr. Willhite. “If I inject BPA in my brain, or if I inject it in my veins, or if I inject it in my skin, I can demonstrate some level of endocrine disruption. I cannot demonstrate endocrine disruption through reproducible oral studies. It doesn't happen.”

NSF International plays a key guiding role in the formulation and enforcement of public health standards. “We are delighted by results of this study, and by the impact this new reference dose will have in the evaluation of BPA in products that come in contact with drinking water,” says Dr. Lori Bestervelt, Sr. Vice President of NSF International and

Chief Technical Officer. “However, more research is needed (particularly in reproductive and developmental toxicology) to assess the human health effects of other exposure routes.”

The *Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health Part B: Critical Reviews* provides an outlet for the critical analysis of original research published in its sister journal, *Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health Part A: Current Issues*. These authoritative journals feature strictly refereed original research and review of a variety of studies in the field of environmental toxicology in general as well as in special interest fields. Emphasis is on the toxicological effects of natural and anthropogenic environmental pollutants and their action on both intact organisms and in vitro systems. Increased attention is being placed on the results of epidemiological studies of select groups of subjects in exposed populations.

Dr. Willhite predicts that this study and its conclusions will form an integral part of the EPA’s reevaluation and update of the reference dose for BPA. “The paper identifies ‘data gaps’ (specifically neurobehavioral parameters) that have been so poorly investigated and reported that Good Lab Practices (GLP)-compliant studies consistent with regulatory bodies’ guidelines will be forthcoming,” says Dr. Willhite. He points out that the advantage to conducting a study such as his in a private laboratory setting is that procedures are regulated by and must maintain GLP standards to verify the integrity of the resulting data. “It should be kept in mind that, in universities, they don’t have GLP standards. They don’t have third-party auditors such as these,” says Willhite.

The *Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health Part B: Critical Reviews*, published eight times per year, is available at an institutional print and online subscription rate of \$1,219/£739, an institutional online-only subscription rate of \$1,158/£702, and a personal subscription rate of \$409/£247.

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Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health Part B: Critical Reviews
ISSN Print 1093-7404
ISSN Online 1521-6950
Volume 11, 2008, 8 issues per year

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