

BISPHENOL A (BPA)

Introduction

Bisphenol A (BPA) first was synthesized in 1905. It is a key building block of polycarbonate, which is used to manufacture lightweight high-performance plastic with the purpose of countless practical uses. It is also a key epoxy resins used as protective coatings on metal cans to maintain the quality of canned food and beverages. This is also used in dental sealants in preventing tooth decay and in maintaining dental health.

Bisphenol A has recently come to the forefront of health and environmental concern around the world. Because this is a new topic there is not a lot of information especially statistics. Most of the information found is for consumers.

Section 1: Background and Problem Statement

- **Web site #1:** U.S. Food and Drug Admin. **Score:** 14
- **Web address:** www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/bpa.html

Summary:

The information on this site was very minimal. This site stated that they are looking into information from the National Toxicology Program that was published in the U.S National Institute of Health. After reviewing the information they will make recommendations to the commission on the usage of BPA in plastic bottles and cans.

- **Web site #2:** National Institute of Environmental Health Science
Score: 28
- **Web address:** <http://www.niehs.nih.gov/news/media/questions/sya-bpa.cfm>

Summary:

This site was very informative. It had current information and also documentation from studies conducted by Doctors. This site also gave

unbiased information it was all proven through the studies. The information was clear and understandable.

- **Web site #3:** Healthy People 2010 **Score:** 16
- **Web address:** <http://www.healthypeople.gov/Search>

Summary:

Healthy People 2010 didn't have any information on BPA. It only contained articles from US Today concerning BPA. This site was not informative. It was hard to find the information concerning BPA. You had to search under the subtitles. I don't recommend this site for information concerning BPA.

- **Web site #4:** Bisphenol A Fact Sheet Canadian Government
- **Score:** 29
- **Web address:** [http://www.chemicalsubstanceschimiques.gc.ca/challenge-defi/bisphenol-a fs-fr e.html](http://www.chemicalsubstanceschimiques.gc.ca/challenge-defi/bisphenol-a_fs-fr_e.html)

Summary:

This site is through the government of Canada. This site was very informative with links to support its information. It was very clear and easy to navigate. The information was current and dated. This site also reports that Canada is the first country to take action against companies who add BPA to their products. They also have kept abreast with the impact of BPA through a Chemical Action Plan that the government has implemented.

Section 2: Research

- **Web site #1:** Pollution. It's in You **Score:** 26
- **Web address:** <http://www.environmentaldefence.ca/toxicnation/action/bisphenolfaq>

Summary:

This site was very clear and understandable. It had updated information with links to support the information. Even though this is an environmental Web site it was unbiased and the information has been proven by Doctors who are studying the effects of BPA.

- **Web site #2:** American Assoc. for Cancer Research **Score:** 23
- **Web address:**
<http://cancerres.aacrjournals.org/cgi/content/full/66/11/5624>

Summary:

This site was very informative. It wasn't clear on its opinion but it did have information concerning BPA and its link to cancer. The information was up to date and it had links to support its documentation. It also had graphics and pictures to show the damage that BPA causes to the different parts of the body.

- **Web site #3:** Toxicology Sciences **Score:** 8
- **Web address:**
<http://www.bisphenol-a.org/pdf/ToxicologyCagen3.pdf>

Summary:

This site lead to a pfd files which gave information on the research of BPA in mice and the results that were found. The information was clear. I couldn't grade this on design/interface/technical quality because it was not an official Web site. Even though it wasn't a Web site it fit the criteria of being a research site with important information.

- **Web site #4:** Science Direct **Score:** 10
- **Web address:**
<http://www.sciencedirect.com>

Summary:

This site was not what you would think, it lead you to different sites that have research information concerning BPA. This was like a holding site for others. Some of the links to the other site you had to purchase. I wouldn't recommend this site if you are search for information because it was just the link to other sites concerning the topic.

Section 3: Statistics

- **Web site #1:** British Journal of Pharmacology **Score:** 25
- **Web address:**
<http://www.nature.com/bjp/journal/v138/n7/full/0705166a.html>

Summary:

This site was very helpful. It gave a complete explanation of BPA and its effects. It also had a study that was performed on mice and the effects. It had graphics and statistics concerning the outcome of the experiment. This site was not for the average person but someone who is looking and who understands the information concerning the statistics.

- **Web site #2:** I love my baby **Score: 3**
- **Web address:** <http://www.ilovemybaby.org/entry/non-toxic-stainless-steel-sippy-cups/>

Summary:

This site was not helpful. It didn't contain any statistical information concerning BPA. It was a web site used to purchase items for new mothers. They were advertising stainless steel bottle instead of using plastic bottles.

- **Web site #3:** Toxicological Sciences **Score: 15**
- **Web address:** <http://toxsci.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/full/86/2/396>

Summary:

This site was very helpful if you understand science and the terminology. This site was not user friendly nor was it well organized and clear. It wasn't eye friendly. But it was informative with data information concerning studies that have been done concerning BPA and hormones.

- **Web site #4:** Environmental Health Perspectives **Score: 25**
- **Web address:** <http://www.ehponline.org/members/2003/5512/5512.html>

Summary:

This Web site was concerned with the environmental and health effects of BPA. This site included graphic and statistics. This information was not current I believe the site stated 2002. It also contained references to support the information in the document.

Section 4: Consumer Information

- **Web site #1:** Consumer Bisphenol A Exposure & safety Information
Score: 29
- **Web address:** <http://www.bisphenol-a.org/human/consafety.html>

Summary:

This site was very informative. It gave an overview of BPA and the effects of this chemical. The information that was given also was supported by the references and links that were made available. This was a very good consumer information site.

- **Web site #2:** The Work Group for Safe Markets **Score:** 22
- **Web address:** <http://www.chej.org/documents/BabysToxicBottleFinal.pdf>

Summary:

This site was very informative. It wasn't a traditional web site but pdf file of information concerning BPA in bottles. The information was very interesting. It gave you a complete over view of BPA and its effects on babies drinking out of bottles with BPA chemical. It also had statistic that showed the levels of BPA in certain bottles and the levels of BPA that is released according to temperature. The group that designed this web site is watchdog groups that make sure items are safe for consumers.

- **Web site #3:** BPA Facts Source Watch **Score:** 29
- **Web address:** <http://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php?title=BPAFacts.org>

Summary:

This site was very helpful it included information from different watchdog groups. It gave information concerning BPA. The site was well organized and very informative.

- **Web site #4:** European Information Center on Bisphenol A
Score: 29
- **Web address:** <http://www.bisphenol-a-europe.org/>

Summary:

This was a very informative site. It was a site constructed for consumer's information. They gave an overview about Bisphenol A and what it is used

for. This site also gave information concerning the causes of Bisphenol and what effects it may have on the environment. It also had links that supported the statements concerning Bisphenol A. The site was well constructed and easily to navigate.

Conclusions

Section 1: Background and Statement

Best Web site National Institute of Environmental Health Science

Although BPA is very new this web site gave the most information about BPA. It gave an overview of BPA and what is and what it is used for.

Worst Web site Healthy People 2010

This web site didn't have any information concerning BPA. It just had a statement. This subject was not easily found. Healthy People 2010 just gave a brief statement and it was very general.

Section 2: Research

I didn't know anything about Bisphenol A (BPA). I heard about it on television but this was a new subject for me. I didn't know that this chemical was also found in our can goods. This chemical is used to help preserve the food in the aluminum cans. This was very informative and it makes you look at food very differently and also what you would buy and don't buy.

Section 3: Statistics

There is not a lot of information concerning the statistics of BPA. This is a new subject that has been brought forth. Many studies have been done but there is no stable statistics concerning this topic.

Section 4: Consumer Information

Best Web site: The Work Group for Safe Markets

I thought this Web site was the most informative and it gave an overview and important information concerning BPA and its effect. I didn't have a worst web site. Each of the sites gave informative information and was very easy to navigate. Each of them expressed their view and also was able to prove it through added links that support its view.

Back to Betty C. Jung's Web site	http://www.bettyjung.net/
Back to Web site Critique Reports Directory	http://www.bettyjung.net/Pch201wsreports.htm

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