

Bisphenol A (BPA) Fact Sheet

BPA is used to make protective coatings, like the linings in metal food cans that prevent rust and corrosion. Some receipts, such as from cash registers or gas pumps, may contain BPA. BPA is also used to make a hard plastic called polycarbonate.

BPA is found in

- The coatings inside some food and drink cans.
- Some hard plastic food and drink containers, which might be labeled with the number “7” or “PC” on the bottom.
- Some older plastic baby bottles and sippy cups. Use of BPA in these products officially ended in the U.S. in July 2012.
- Some plastic stretch wrap used to cover or package food.
- Some receipts, such as from cash registers or gas pumps.

Possible health concerns

BPA:

- May affect the fetus and infant, including possible changes in development and behavior.
- May interfere with the body’s natural hormones.
- May affect reproductive function.
- Might increase cancer risk.

Possible ways to reduce exposure

- Eat more fresh food and less canned food.
- Use glass or stainless steel containers to store food and liquids.
- Avoid using plastic containers for hot food or drinks. Avoid microwaving plastic containers.
- Breastfeed your infant if you can. For bottle-feeding, use glass bottles.
- Wash your and your children’s hands before eating or drinking. BPA can get on your hands from some items you touch, like receipts.

For more information:

BPA fact sheet for parents: www.hhs.gov/safety/bpa