

**Need for regulatory policies in India, on the use of Bisphenol A in food contact plastic containers**

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## **Abstract**

The incidence of endocrine disorders and reproductive abnormalities are increasingly reported in the recent past. There are chemicals that might cause these disorders known as endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs). Bisphenol a (BPA) is one such compound used in the polycarbonate (PC) plastics and epoxy resins. Studies are available to demonstrate the migration of BPA from such containers to food substances under various conditions. Similarly, studies conducted using animal models have revealed that BPA interacts steroid receptors and interfere lipid metabolism, glycogen metabolism *etc.* Although studies are available to demonstrate the toxicity of BPA even at lower concentrations, formulation of strong regulatory policies against BPA usage in plastics is quite difficult for Government authorities, since, the results are inconsistent. Considering the potential risks posed by this compound, there are about 40 countries adopted restrictive policies on BPA use in food contact plastics especially intended for young children. Despite the restrictions implemented by these countries, developing countries like India with large plastic-users do not have any policies towards the regulation of BPA usage. The authorities should investigate further and take actions based on the available information, and bring regulatory policies on the use of BPA in food contact plastics, especially intended for population under developmental stage and pregnant women.

**Keywords:** toxicity; low-dose effects; endocrine disruptor; tolerable daily intake; BPA policy