



February 23, 2010

Ms. Teresa Dumain
Senior Editor
Prevention Magazine
733 3rd Avenue
New York, NY 10017

Dear Teresa:

On behalf of the North American Metal Packaging Alliance, Inc. (NAMPA), I am writing to correct misinformation in the article “7 Foods that Should Never Cross Your Lips” published in the most recent issue of *Prevention* magazine. Specifically, the statement attributed to Fredrick Vom Saal regarding canned tomatoes and bisphenol A (BPA) is misinformed and ignores more than 20 years of scientific literature supporting the safety of this substance. Most recently, both the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released new, separate studies that concluded low doses of BPA do not affect the brain, reproduction, or development.

In addition to the experts listed above, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), the United Kingdom Food Standards Agency, the German Federal Institute of Risk Assessment, and the Japanese Ministry of Health have studied BPA and each agency concluded that BPA is safe for use in approved food contact applications. To report otherwise constitutes a disservice to your readers and blatantly ignores the scientific evidence found from international regulatory agencies deemed responsible for consumer protection.

The claim that BPA has been linked to obesity is also false. According to the National Toxicology Program (NTP), “[t]here is currently insufficient evidence to conclude that bisphenol A exposure during development predisposes laboratory animals to develop obesity or metabolic diseases such as diabetes, later in life.”

BPA-based epoxy resins in the lining of metal cans enable the high temperature sterilization of food products when initially packaged, which is critical to protecting against microbial contaminants and securing the nutritional value of the food product.

The North American Metal Packaging Alliance, Inc. is an organization whose objectives are to support risk-based regulations in North America; influence regulation in other geographies, provide customers with needed information regarding well-founded technologies, and advocate risk-based decision-making in technology decisions.



Ms. Teresa Dumain
February 23, 2010
Page 2

As Chairman of NAMPA, I welcome the opportunity to provide you with a more in-depth briefing on the science supporting the safety of this compound for future stories. I encourage you to visit our website at www.metal-pack.org for more in-depth information about the safe use of epoxy resins in metal packaging.

Sincerely,

John M. Rost, Ph.D.
Chair, NAMPA