



NAMPA Statement on *Journal of Pediatrics* Study on BPA Exposure and Developmental Effects in Young Girls

Washington, D.C. (October 25, 2011): The North American Metal Packaging Alliance, Inc. (NAMPA) believes it is critically important that pregnant mothers and the rest of the public are made aware of and understand the limitations and shortcomings of a recently published study in the *Journal of Pediatrics* on bisphenol A (BPA) exposure and developmental effects in young girls.

NAMPA Chairman, Dr. John M. Rost, issued the following statement regarding the study:

“It is significant to note that in evaluating their own research, the study’s authors conclude that *‘the clinical relevance of these findings is unclear at this point.’* They acknowledge the low association between behavior and exposures, stating *‘This pattern should be interpreted cautiously, given the imprecision of the observed associations...and the low statistical power for interactions between gender and BPA exposures.’* Equally important is the authors’ admission of a lack of causation, conceding that the findings could be based on chance, socio-economic factors, or other chemical compounds.

“NAMPA has concerns with the study design, as well. Spot urine analysis, particularly when taken at a few, intermittent times (six over the course of four years in this study), has little relevance. BPA is so quickly and efficiently metabolized from the body that one-time spot analysis only tells what you were exposed to over the last few hours. Even a more appropriate 24-hour collection only tells what the person was exposed to that day. When compared to a nine-month gestation period, the samples taken by the study reveal little about total exposure, for mother or fetus, throughout the pregnancy. With such limited samples from such a limited study population, this is little more than a hypothesis.

“Robust, scientifically sound clinical studies on BPA, particularly a recent study sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and performed by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), provide reassuring information regarding BPA. The Teegaarden *et al.* study found that even a diet high in BPA does not show any measurable level of ‘free-BPA’ in the bloodstream. This indicates that if BPA is not in the blood, it cannot be passed to the fetus. These findings are further supported by a recent study conducted by the FDA, which showed BPA did not cause developmental effects in a clinical setting.”

NAMPA reminds consumers that metal packaging enables high temperature sterilization of food products when initially packaged, which is critical in maintaining the sterility and safety of the food product.

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About NAMPA

The North American Metal Packaging Alliance, Inc. and its members support sound science and trust the scientific review process that has protected our food supply for decades. For further information, visit www.metal-pack.org.