

INFORMATION

New Regulation on Bisphenol A - Consequences for Materials in Contact with Drinking Water

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) fixed a preliminarily tolerable daily intake (t-TDI) of bisphenol A of 4 µg per kilogram of body weight per day (4 µg/kg kg/d) which may be taken in daily and for a whole lifetime without fearing risks to health.

(<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/de/topics/topic/bisphenol.htm>).

EFSA found out that the intake of bisphenol A through food does not exceed the preliminarily tolerable daily intake. However, bisphenol A is also taken in via other entry pathways than food. For this reason, the European Commission has fixed an allocation factor of 20 % which restricts the intake of bisphenol A from food to 20 % of the tolerable daily intake. Thus, a reduction of the specific migration value for food contact materials to 0.05 mg bisphenol A in one kilogram of food (SML = 0.05 mg/kg) results. Bisphenol A with a detection limit of 10 µg/kg should not be detected in objects for baby and infant foods. These requirements were laid down in the (EU) regulation no. 2018/213 and are applicable to materials in contact with food. Drinking water is excluded from it. When fixing health-based maximum values in drinking water (MTC_{tap}) the Federal Environmental Agency refers to the evaluation made by EFSA. In conformity with the new regulation a maximum value of bisphenol A of 2.5 µg/l is obtained which is discharged into drinking water from organic materials. Thereby the calculation of the maximum value for drinking water is based on an intake of 2 litres of drinking water per day. In addition, the intake via drinking water is restricted to 10 % of the tolerable daily intake.

The DWPLL value (in future MTC_{tap}) of 30 µg/l indicated for bisphenol A in the UBA Coatings Guideline has been reduced to 12 µg/l already in 2015. Owing to the new regulation a maximum value for drinking water of 2.5 µg/l is applicable. This requirement is applicable with immediate effect when testing all organic materials containing bisphenol A as starting substance in conformity with the UBA guidelines.

This alteration is also to be considered when analyzing drinking water from coated components of water supply installations, e.g. after inner coating of drinking water installations, for substances contained in the materials.