

New Study Finds PFOA Levels in Drinking Water Are Safe

BETHESDA, MD - The Sapphire Group today released the results of a new study which found that levels of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) found in drinking water supplies are safe for human exposure. PFOA, sometimes referred to as C8, is a substance used in the manufacture of a variety of non-stick and stain resistant protective coatings.

Concentrations of PFOA found in drinking water supplies range from less than the detectable limit of 7.5 parts per trillion to 3.5 parts per billion near some manufacturing facilities. Studies of workers exposed to high concentrations of PFOA in manufacturing facilities have found no increase in the incidence of adverse health effects.

The Sapphire Group's examination of 239 peer reviewed human and animal studies found a safe level of lifetime exposure to PFOA in drinking water to be up to 6.5 parts per billion. One part per billion is the equivalent of one drop dissolved in 14,000 gallons of water. One part per trillion is the equivalent of a half drop dissolved in a 660 thousand gallon Olympic swimming pool.

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