

## **For the record: Shopping receipts don't cause impotence**

The Society for Endocrinology Endocrine Disruptors Special Interest Group joined forces with [Sense About Science](#) to respond to a story printed on page 3 of *The Daily Telegraph* on 30 June 2010<sup>1</sup>, outlining that researchers had linked bisphenol A (BPA) found in the ink of till receipts to androgen suppression and impotence in men.

In a joint letter to *The Daily Telegraph* we highlighted our concerns about the article:

*"SIR - We were surprised to read in your paper that shopping could make men impotent because some till receipts contain Bisphenol A (BPA) (article, page 3, June 30). At present there is no evidence that BPA causes impotence.*

*"It is implied that there is enough BPA in some till receipts to suppress testosterone levels in men (or to raise oestrogen levels). We are unaware of any data that shows any such effects in humans or in animals. At the (low) levels of exposure of BPA in the general population, the overwhelming scientific evidence says there will be no adverse health effects, and certainly not on hormone levels.*

*"It is misleading to suggest that the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) supports the removal of BPA. The FDA has simply called for further studies to enable clarification of present uncertainties, which is the logical step forward. The European equivalent of the FDA considers that current exposure to BPA is safe.*

### **Professor Richard M Sharpe**

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### **Ellen Raphael**

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<sup>1</sup>[Sex and shopping - how retail therapy really is bad for men's health and fertility](#), *The Daily Telegraph*, 30 June 2010