

Letter to *The Independent*: No evidence bisphenol A causes breast cancer

The Society for Endocrinology Endocrine Disruptors Special Interest Group has responded to an article that appeared online in *The Independent* on 30 October 2012¹. The article stated that a charity was calling for a ban on bisphenol A in food packaging as it caused breast cancer.

In a letter to *The Independent*, we highlighted our concerns about the article:

“Sir - The article entitled “*Breast cancer charity calls for ban on food packaging chemical*” which appeared online in *The Independent* on Tuesday 30 October contains a number of misleading assumptions and we are concerned that the article may cause unnecessary worry to breast cancer patients and women generally.

“There is currently no robust scientific evidence that exposure to the substance bisphenol A at any concentration causes breast cancer in humans. Demonstrating an ‘association’ between increased exposure to bisphenol A and an increase in breast cancer rates over recent decades does not prove that the former causes the latter; numerous other influential factors have changed also, such as diet. There is no robust scientific evidence that the current (low) levels of exposure to bisphenol A in the general population are sufficient to adversely affect our health.

Professor Ieuan Hughes

Professor Richard Sharpe

Society for Endocrinology Endocrine Disruptors Special Interest Group”

¹[Breast cancer charity calls for ban on food packaging chemical](#), *The Independent*, 30 October 2012.