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#### **Education**

Bi-monthly newsletter  
Endometriosis Awareness Month  
Environmental Initiatives  
Fact Sheets and Brochures  
(29 languages)  
Information Clearinghouse  
Media Assistance  
Newsletters  
Public Service Announcements  
Speakers and Presentations  
*TeenSource* quarterly newsletter  
Books, CDs, DVDs  
Website

#### **Support**

Chapters and Support Groups  
Correspondence Networks  
Crisis Call Help  
Email Support  
Miracle Miles Program  
Teen Mentor Program  
Healthcare Provider Listing  
Requests for Contact  
Teen Program

#### **Research & Medical Education**

Data Registry  
Collaborative Research with the  
National Institutes of Health  
(NIH)  
Endometriosis Association  
Research Program at  
Vanderbilt  
Research Grants  
EA/NIH Research Fellowship  
Medical Professional Education  
Technical Assistance



January 25, 2008

Dr. Michael Shelby  
Director  
NTP Center for the Evaluation of  
Risks to Human Reproduction  
P.O. Box 12233, MD EC-32  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Dear Dr. Shelby,

The Endometriosis Association, an international research and membership organization, has been one of the pioneering organizations looking into the connection between environmental toxins and the formation and exacerbation of disease. Endometriosis is a painful, chronic immune and endocrine disease that is essentially incurable, involving numerous surgical, medical, and alternative treatments. The disease impacts daily functions and overall well-being; that is why disease management, and enhancing quality of life, depend on self-care and prevention of additional illness related to endometriosis, in partnership with regular treatments. By integrating environmental health approaches, including reducing exposure to toxins from food, drinking water, and indoor air, our members have reported better results in their wellness efforts. It is on behalf of our members and the five million American women with endometriosis that we petition the National Toxicology Program to further review the findings of the November, 2007 report on bisphenol A (BPA).

Throughout the course of the bisphenol A study performed by the twelve-member panel led by Robert Chapin, inconsistencies have prevailed. The first red-flag occurred as Sciences International, a consulting firm with ties to BPA industry, was chosen to act as the gatekeeper to which articles would be seen and reviewed by the panel. With industry dictating what information could make it past the first cut, the deck was already stacked with bias.

Secondly, the panel further diminished the validity of their conclusions by applying inconsistent methodology and scientific standards while reviewing the studies, accepting two studies that had not been peer reviewed, and admitting twelve studies that had not been published in a scientific journal. By using differing standards during the review of the articles, the panel essentially distorted any materiality of the weight system used to determine the importance of any one study.

Finally, the panel's assumptions that low dose exposure to BPA is benign and that the bodies of fetuses and small children process BPA through the same physical mechanisms as adults, led the group to dismiss or give a lower weight to studies that looked into both low-dose exposure and those that injected doses of BPA, instead of orally administering the substance, to young animals or those in utero. This caused the panel to overlook relevant studies and ignore two of the most common and grave BPA exposures, low dose exposures, which may accumulate, and exposures to developing fetuses and young children.

Due to the fore stated and the serious nature of the conditions associated with exposure to this toxic substance, the Endometriosis Association respectfully requests that the National Toxicology Program thoroughly reexamine all available information and studies on bisphenol A, and investigate the actions and associations of the panel members involved with the original report. When it comes to the health of our children, "error," if necessary, should be on the side of caution. We cannot put the profits of industry before the health of future generations of Americans.

Sincerely,

Sarah Platka  
Environmental Health Coordinator