Bisphenol A Under Increased Scrutiny for Health Effects

Both the EPA and the FDA have mentioned bisphenol A (BPA) as a compound of interest. The EPA has placed BPA on a list of chemicals slated for possible regulation, and the FDA has called for more research to determine what health risks BPA may pose. Both agencies are concerned about the potential effects of the ubiquitous chemical, with the EPA concerned about BPA levels in water and the FDA investigating levels in humans. The EPA will be investigating bisphenol A concentrations in drinking water as well as groundwater, with measurements taken to determine the fate of the millions of pounds of BPA released into the environment every year. The EPA notes that BPA has been shown to be a toxicant in animal studies, and concerns arise with regards to the levels found in the environment, and in human models.

The FDA will be monitoring BPA levels in humans more closely as efforts to curb the level used in industrial and commercial applications are applied. Programs in place to lower infant exposure to BPA will be observed for effectiveness in lowering overall levels; regulation of BPA production may be forthcoming if levels cannot be lowered through nonregulatory means.

Cambridge Isotope Laboratories, Inc. produces a wide variety of BPA standards and related compounds. $^{13}$C-labeled and deuterium-labeled standards, as well as unlabeled standards, are available, with quantitative solutions offered for precise analysis of BPA levels. For analysts interested in compounds related to BPA, we offer the common flame retardants tetrabromobisphenol A and tetrachlorobisphenol A in labeled and unlabeled form. Please visit www.isotope.com to see CIL’s complete line of BPA standards.