



June 22, 2009

Re: Bisphenol-A

To our valued Enteral Feeding Customers:

Thank you for your request for information on whether enteral feeding products manufactured by Covidien, formerly Tyco Healthcare, contain bisphenol-A (BPA). BPA is an organic compound used to make some plastic materials such as polycarbonate, certain types of polyester, polyether ketone, polysulfone, phenoxy and epoxy. As you know, there have been questions raised in the healthcare and food industries about potential risks associated with exposure to BPA.

The process for making the medical grade polymers listed above will normally consume all of the BPA component, such that the finished medical device would not contain BPA, however commercial grades of these polymers are not subject to the same requirements for biocompatibility testing. High visibility news reports which refer to BPA in general terms have also added to the confusion regarding BPA and its widespread use. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has stated that FDA-regulated products made with BPA are safe, based no doubt on the high standards which have been established for demonstration of suitability when selecting materials for medical devices.

The use of polymers derived from BPA in the Covidien Enteral Feeding product line is limited to components of the devices which are not patient contact (not in the fluid path), and the polycarbonate valve body on the feeding sets. The need for dimensional precision and stability of the valve body mandate the use of polycarbonate in this application. As stated above, we use only the highest quality medical grade polycarbonate resins for the valve body.

Covidien enteral feeding tube product lines are made of materials that are not based on BPA. Below, please find detailed tube product families:

Argyle™ Indwell™ Polyurethane Feeding Tubes  
Argyle™ Polyvinyl Chloride Feeding Tubes with Sentinel Line™  
Curity™ Feeding Tubes  
Dobhoff™ Nasogastric Feeding Tubes  
Endo-Tube™ Feeding Tubes  
Entriflex™ Nasogastric Feeding Tubes  
Kangaroo™ Gastrostomy Feeding Tubes  
Kangaroo™ Non-Weighted Feeding Tubes  
Pedi-Tube™ Pediatric Nasogastric Feeding Tubes  
Sovereign Sterile Feeding Tubes

This information is accurate as this letter is being written and we have no plans to change from our current materials described above. I trust that this letter responds to your request. Please feel free to contact me if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Welsh". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jim Welsh  
VP, Regulatory Affairs