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Benzene In Soft Drinks

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Benzene in Your Soft Drinks

The FDA is responding to reports that benzene has been found in some soft drinks.

Benzene, a carcinogen, is found in the environment from natural and man-made sources. In November 2005, FDA received reports that benzene had been detected at low levels in some soft drinks containing benzoate salts (an antimicrobial agent) and ascorbic acid (Vitamin C), particularly under certain conditions of storage, shelf life and handling.

The FDA's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN) initiated a survey of benzene levels in soft drinks following receipt of the November 2005 reports.

This survey indicates that the vast majority of beverages sampled (including those containing both benzoate salts and ascorbic acid) contain either no detectable benzene levels or are well below the 5 parts per billion (ppb) U.S. water standard.

The results of this survey, which will be released in the near future, indicate that the levels of benzene in these beverages do not pose a safety concern.

FDA's Total Diet Study (TDS) results from 1995 to 2001, as recently reported by the press, indicated benzene levels in soft drinks that were well above and inconsistent with CFSAN's more recent survey results.

The TDS results were also well above and inconsistent with levels reported in previous and current peer-reviewed literature and with hundreds of recent domestic and international government and beverage industry results.

\$53 million verdict — brake mechanic suffering from mesothelioma

\$13.5 million verdict — one of the very first Vioxx trial cases

\$15 million settlement — man wound up a paraplegic due to negligent hospital care

\$37 million verdict — 2 asbestos lung cancer plaintiffs

\$47 million verdict — boilermaker who died from mesothelioma

\$75 million verdict — historic consolidated trial involving men who had worked at the Brooklyn Navy Yard in the 1940s and 1950s

\$12.7 million verdict — iron worker who was injured due to unsafe working conditions

\$64.65 million award — 4 asbestos plaintiffs

\$17.5 million — consolidated trial of 5 mesothelioma victims

\$25 million jury verdict — brake reliner

\$5.8 million settlement — failure to perform timely C-Section

\$30 million verdict — 7 former power-plant workers suffering from asbestos-related illnesses

\$6 million settlement — pediatric malpractice case

\$14 million consolidated verdict — 5 asbestos-related cancer suits: shipyards/powerhouses/construction

\$8 million settlement — obstetrical malpractice resulted in neurological deficits

\$3.5 million — 2 asbestos exposure cases

\$600,000 settlement — motor vehicle negligence resulting in serious injury

\$44 million verdict — 5 asbestos cases, including \$11.6 million awarded to widow of sheet metal worker who died of mesothelioma

\$1.6 million settlement — suicide after premature hospital discharge

\$2.6 million settlement — ill-fitting prosthesis caused decubitus ulcers

\$1.5 million settlement — construction worker fell off elevated train tracks

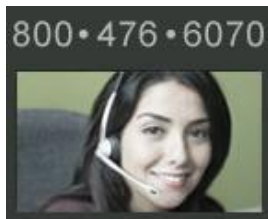
\$750,000 settlement — defective construction equipment resulted in serious injury to worker

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We are working to determine the source of the differences. As with any data that appear to be inconsistent, FDA believes it is important to closely examine the reasons for such differences.

FDA is also continuing to follow up with companies to ensure that processing conditions are established that will ensure that benzene formation is avoided or minimized.

If you or your family's health has been compromised, or if your property and/or surrounding environments have been contaminated by Benzene, you can file a Benzene lawsuit to fight back against the negligent polluters and hold them responsible for their actions. All you have to do is fill out the form below for a free case evaluation.

[Need immediate/urgent help? Click here.](#)

fill out to have us review your situation for free

Name

E mail

Phone Number

Best time to call

Were you exposed to benzene at work? yes no

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