

Dangerous Chemicals in Toothpaste

April 20th, 2010

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There have been studies that have revealed that there are some dangerous chemicals in toothpaste; these chemicals include an ingredient called triclosan.

Recent studies have found that triclosan may upset the balance of one's endocrine system and it can even generate bacteria that are so strong they prove resistant to antibiotics. Now, the FDA is looking into the matter.

In the late 1990s it was believed that the inclusion of triclosan improved toothpastes and its ability to help remove tartar and clean the teeth; further studies began upon requests which cited concern with the inclusion of tricolsan.

Some researchers are so concerned that they have been writing letters to 13 major manufacturers of products containing triclosan, including Colgate-Palmolive and Procter and Gamble, encouraging them to stop the use of the chemical.

Triclosan is a chemical that is used as an antibacterial agent in a variety of consumer offered products. This chemical is supposed to prevent odor and kill off fungus too; so prevalent is the use of triclosan in products that it can be found in urine samples in as many as three quarters of the United States population. It is added to toothpaste to get rid of gingivitis and to fend off bacteria and plaque formation.

There are some individuals demanding that the chemical be banned completely in the United States. What's more, this chemical has already been fully restricted or banned in a variety of countries including the European Union.

The FDA, after being contacted by researchers, have indicated that there is data that is legitimate enough to cause concerns about the potential baneful effects of continuous exposure on a day to day basis to Triclosan.

The FDA will be looking into the situation further due to some studies conducted on animals that suggest that the ingredient is not safe. If any findings are made after the FDA's extensive review of the chemical and its safety levels, the findings will be revealed in 2011, during the spring, to the public.

At this time, although being notified of the issue, the Environmental Protection Agency has no plans to evaluate the safeness of Triclosan until the year 2013.