



September 9, 2010

Dear Dental Professional:

This letter is in response to your request for information on 3M ESPE products containing bisphenol A (BPA). We are aware of recent articles mentioning BPA in connection with dental products and the ongoing debate over the actual health effects of BPA. As part of our long-standing commitment to health and safety, we have performed biocompatibility assessments on 3M ESPE products potentially impacted by this issue and confirmed that they are safe for their intended use.

No 3M ESPE product has BPA added.

In the past, the product 3M™ ESPE™ Concise™ Composite had a small amount of BPA added. While the product was safe for its intended use, it has been reformulated to remove the BPA as an ingredient for those concerned about minimizing their potential BPA exposure.

Like other dental manufacturers, 3M ESPE uses the material known as BisGMA in many products. BisGMA is known by its full chemical name of “Bisphenol A diglycidyl ether methacrylate” which is not the same as Bisphenol A. Studies have shown that BisGMA is stable under curing conditions and in the mouth and does not break down to form BPA. These studies were summarized and the findings confirmed in a recent article in the journal “Pediatrics” (“Bisphenol A and Related Compounds in Dental Materials”, online September 6, 2010).

The “Pediatrics” article notes that the material called “Bisphenol A dimethacrylate” (BisDMA) may release BPA. BisDMA is not the same as BisGMA. 3M ESPE does not use BisDMA in any dental products.

If you have additional questions, please contact our Customer Care Center at 1-800-634-2249.

Thank you for your interest in 3M ESPE products.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William J. Donovan', written in a cursive style.

William J. Donovan
Quality, Regulatory and EHS Manager
3M ESPE Dental Products Division