Concerned about aspartame? Beware of this other "probable carcinogen" on your plate



hile aspartame's classification as a *possible carcinogen* grabbed headlines, the classification of another ubiquitous chemical slid silently beneath the diet cola outrage. The Lyons, France based International Association for Research on Cancer, the IARC, classified the artificial sweetener aspartame as a group 2B "possible" carcinogen in last week's published evaluation.

Social and traditional media erupted with calls for bans of its use, and freaked-out moms everywhere dumped bottles of soda down the drain and emptied their drawers of Trident Gum to protect their families. Decades of research, and the fact that you'd have to pound down about 14 two liters of diet soda a day to approach a risk threshold, be damned. The IARC rating sent environmental activists into high gear.

screenshot opme unknown

And within hours, tort lawyer firms who make their living off exploiting public misunderstandings about science to shake down companies fearful of billion-dollar jury verdicts were trolling the internet for victims.



FREE CASE CONSULT

NEW YORK BROOKLYN QUEENS LONG ISLAND NEW JERSEY FLORIDA

HOME

OUR RESULTS V

PRACTICE AREAS V

DEFECTIVE DRUGS v

DEFECTIVE MEDICAL DEVICES

WHY IT IS IMPORTANT TO FILE YOUR ASPARTAME LAWSUIT

Filing an Aspartame lawsuit is important for a number of reasons:

- Seeking Compensation: One of the most significant reasons to file a lawsuit is to recover financial
 compensation. This can help cover medical expenses, loss of earnings, pain and suffering, and other
 damages incurred as a result of health complications linked to aspartame.
- 2. Holding Companies Accountable: Filing a lawsuit can hold responsible parties, such as manufacturers, accountable for their actions. If a product is proven to be harmful, the manufacturer must bear the consequences of their negligence or failure to inform consumers about the potential risks.
- Raising Awareness: A lawsuit can draw attention to the potential risks and adverse effects associated with aspartame. This could lead to increased regulatory scrutiny and potentially safer alternatives in the future.
- 4. Prevent Further Harm: By taking legal action, you can contribute to a body of evidence that may prompt regulatory bodies to reconsider the status of aspartame, potentially preventing further harm to others.

Remember, in such cases, it is essential to seek the guidance of an experienced law firm like Parker Waichman LLP. They can provide the support and legal expertise necessary to navigate through the lawsuit process effectively, ensuring that your rights are protected and that you receive the compensation you deserve.

STEPS TO FILING AN ASPARTAME LAWSUIT

While distracted by Mountain Dews and don'ts, the same evaluation by the IARC classified an unrelated scary-sounding chemical — *methyl eugenol* — as a group 2A "*probable carcinogen*": which means it poses even a greater cancer threat than aspartame.

Based on Twitter logic, since glyphosate is a dangerous Group 2A "probable carcinogen", methyl eugenol must also be some deadly poison. After all, that's the same category as glyphosate, an herbicide lauded by farmers as effective and by an overwhelming number of scientists, including every independent chemical risk agency in the world as safe, yet condemned in social media and trial lawyers as a toxic carcinogen of doom.

image

Image not found or type unknown

If the reaction to glyphosate's classification is a guide, the companies that sell methyl eugenol will be sued into financial duress. Activists will clammer for products containing methyl eugenol to be labeled as 'cancer causing', especially in California. There will be calls for bans, and lawyers will hammer big checks with class action lawsuits against the crooked Merchants of Poison that produce... essential oils, aromatherapy candles and pesto sauce. According to the National Institutes of Health, pesto-eaters could be exposed to some of the highest levels of methyl eugenol, because fresh pesto is prepared from a large quantity of fresh basil, reflected by basil amounts in pesto sauce products on the market.

That sound you just heard was the thud of aging hippies and Italian food-loving chemophobes hitting the floor. Patchouli oil and basil are loaded with the stuff.

Or maybe it is the sucking sound created from a vacuum of logic that will condemn one chemistry and let another slide by, when it fits their ideological proclivities or someone sees money in the corner of their eye.

Or maybe it is the hypocrisy of indulging in a Class 2A probable carcinogen as part of their identity at the same time fighting against a different Class 2A probable carcinogen is part of their identity.



Credit: Clean Cooking with Caitlin

The case of methyl eugenol is a stellar opportunity to underscore the hypocrisy in IARC-induced chemophobia. Methyl eugenol is a central component of essential oils, like tea tree oil and citronella. It is a dominant flavor note in nutmeg, lemon grass, cloves and allspice. Methyl eugenol or its metabolites may be detected in the urine of close to 100 percent of individuals that recently ate bananas or oranges. It is present in orders of magnitude higher levels than the parts per billion of glyphosate reportedly found in grocery products deemed deadly toxic by anti-glyphosate interests.

Yet 'progressive' dudes with man-buns will slather on methyl-eugenol-laden tinctures and creams. Naturopaths will sing the praises of aromatherapy, while inhaling a Class 2A carcinogen deep into the lungs. Skin creams will give you a healthy glow, as methyl eugenol's magic combines with essential oils and carnauba wax — and better yet it's organic!



KORA ORGANICS

Noni Glow Face Balm

A super-hydrating and easy-to-use moisturizing balm that glides onto your face, providing skin with antioxidants and essential fatty acids.

Uploaded by: twitterpated on 11/12/2020

Ingredients overview

Cocos Nucifera (Coconut) Oil* ①, Helianthus Annuus (Sunflower) Seed Oil* ①, Beeswax* ①, Butyrospermum Parkii (Shea) Butter ①, Copernicia Cerifera (Carnauba) Wax* ②, Theobroma Grandiflorum Seed Butter*, Rosa Canina Fruit Oil* ①, Tocopherol ①, Morinda Citrifolia Fruit Extract*, Calendula Officinalis Flower Extract* ①, Rosa Damascena Flower Oil* ①, Glycine Soja (Soybean) Oil* ①, Quartz ①, Citronellol** ①, Geraniol** ①, Farnesol** ①, Citral** ①, Methyl Eugenol** ①

And in the widespread application of a IARC Class 2A probable carcinogen you won't see social media activists slamming Annie's Heirloom Seeds for profiting off of seeds of death. You won't see lawyers line up to sue Big Pesto. Irrelevant pseudo-journalists will not write books that reinterpret internal emails at McCormick spices, cherry-picking to denounce cherries.

The point is simple. The archaic IARC classification system has been mobilized by unscrupulous actors to malign chemistries used by industries targeted by activist groups — what they call Big Ag or Big Soda. An IARC classification and its attention-getting headlines are the first stinky step in lawsuits and manipulation of public opinion.

[Editor's note: Read <u>GLP's investigative report</u> on how IARC's aspartame classification is providing gruel to anti-chemical environmentalists and tort lawyers.]

The differing media and advocacy group reactions to classification of aspartame and glyphosate, while ignoring methyl eugenol, <u>ethanol</u> (drinking wine or beer, Class 1 carcinogen) and lunch meat (Class 1 carcinogen) illustrates how pronouncements by IARC and a similar agency based in Italy, <u>Ramazzini</u> <u>Institute</u>, are selectively twisted to mislead, affect public perception, and recruit for a lawsuit class action.

It is clear that the weight and urgency of the IARC classification only matters on products that online quacks, consumer watchdogs, pseudoscience nutrition hawks — and a host of so-called mainstream environmental groups that raise money off of chemophobia with glyphosate tops on their list (e.g., Environmental Working Group, Natural Resources Defense Council, Organic Consumers Association, Union of Concerned Scientists, don't like. But to the scientific world where the dose makes the poison, the social outrage driven by these monographs breaks trust in science while it lines the pockets of attorneys that profit from misleading campaigns targeting select industries.

Kevin M. Folta is a professor, keynote speaker and podcast host. Follow Professor Folta on Twitter @kevinfolta

This article previously ran on the GLP Jul 18, 2023.