

American Pediatric Society lambasted by scientists, researchers, GLP's Jon Entine for promoting scientifically-baseless claim that food grown from genetically modified seeds pose unique dangers to children



[report](#) published in Pediatrics, the flagship journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), warn[s] parents about genetically modified organism (GMO) based foods and conventional pesticides. The paper suggested unknown long-term impacts on children's health and urged more research and transparency in food labeling.

The Pediatrics report also suggested a solution: "Families who desire to completely avoid GMO products can do so by purchasing organic products or those labeled as non-GMO based on third-party testing."

Volume 153, Issue 1

January 2024

[< Previous Article](#) [Next Article >](#)

Article Contents

Introduction

Characteristics and Scope of GMO Food Products

Nutritional Aspects of Bioengineered Foods

GMOs in Infant Nutrition

Pesticide-Related Issues

Scope of Use of Glyphosate-Containing Compounds in GMO Foods

FROM THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS | CLINICAL REPORT | DECEMBER 11 2023

Use of Genetically Modified Organism (GMO)-Containing Food Products in Children **FREE**

Steven A. Abrams, MD, FAAP ; Jaclyn Lewis Albin, MD, FAAP; Philip J. Landrigan, MD, FAAP; COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION ; COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Address correspondence to Steven A. Abrams, MD, FAAP. E-mail: sabrams613@gmail.com

Pediatrics (2024) 153 (1): e2023064774.

<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2023-064774> [Article history](#)

Split-Screen

Views ▾

PDF

Share ▾

Tools ▾

Families increasingly raise questions about the use of genetically modified organism (GMO)-containing food products. These products are widely found in the US food supply but originate from a narrow list of crops. Although GMO technology could be used to increase the micronutrient content of foods, this does not occur in the United States; instead, GMO technology has been used to make crops resistant to chemical herbicides. As a result, herbicide use has increased exponentially. The World Health Organization's International Agency on Research for Cancer has determined that glyphosate, an herbicide widely used in producing GMO food crops, is a probable human carcinogen. Measurable quantities of glyphosate are detected in some GMO foods. Families who wish to minimize GMO food products can do so by focusing on a dietary pattern of primarily whole, plant-based foods while minimizing ultra-processed foods. Pediatricians play a vital role in their efforts to minimize fear-based messaging and support families through shared decision-making. Pediatrician awareness of GMO labeling can guide individualized conversations, particularly that non-GMO labeling does not indicate organic status and that increased cost of some non-GMO foods, especially if also organic, may limit this choice for many families.

[Immunologist and microbiologist Andrea] Love was shocked. "It's essentially legitimizing fallacies about what these crops and food products are," the scientist tells The Messenger. "There's so much misinformation about GMOs and what that actually means ... a lot of it is exploiting low science literacy."

...

While there have been lingering public concerns, GMO-based foods are entirely safe according to numerous agencies, including the [Food and Drug Administration](#) (FDA).

The FDA says that "[studies](#) show that GMOs do not affect you differently than non-GMO foods." The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine also released a [report](#) in 2016 about the

scientific consensus surrounding genetically modified food safety.

...

Jon Entine, executive director of the Genetic Literacy Project, a non-profit focused on challenging mis- and disinformation on agricultural biotechnology, adds “there’s not one major credible federal, national or global organization that has raised any questions about the health implications of genetic modification. Just none.” ... “This paper should be retracted,” adds Entine.

The AAP did not respond to The Messenger’s request for comment.



unbiasedscipod
253K followers

[View profile](#)

The American Academy of Pediatrics' Policy Statement on GMOs disregards decades of scientific consensus

Tune into this week's podcast

"Pediatricians Serving A Menu of GMO Misinformation"

with Dr. Kevin Folta, a molecular plant biologist, and Dr. Nicole Keller, a general pediatrician and AAP member, for a detailed discussion.

Not Remotely Scientific in its Analysis

AAP's statement is a gross misrepresentation of the body of evidence on food, GMOs, and genetic engineering. Studies are cherry-picked to support false claims about conventional produce and pesticides, incorrect statements about GM crops are made, robust data are omitted, and advantages of organic produce are overstated.

Legitimizes Disinformation & Propaganda

This opinion piece pretends to be a scientific paper. The article legitimizes misinformation from activist organizations like the Environmental Working Group (EWG) and is filled with fear-based propaganda intended to mislead families about the safety of GM food ingredients.

Filled with Fearmonging & Shaming

This misinformation is a harmful misstep from the AAP. These myths will mislead parents and clinicians, demonize safe and affordable foods, create unfounded fear about pesticides, lead people to consume less produce, and worsen health outcomes, especially among lower-income families.

THE
UNBIASED
SCIENCE
PODCAST

@unbiasedscipod

[View more on Instagram](#)



2,920 likes



Add a comment...



Rina Raphael is the wellness editor at The Messenger. Find Rina on X [@rrrins](#)

The complete version of this excerpted article was originally posted at [The Messenger](#) a
[@TheMessenger](#)