

BASIC ACRYLIC MONOMER MANUFACTURERS, INC.

The Presidential/Congressional Commission on Risk Assessment and Risk Management Identified Forestomach Tumors As Not Relevant to Humans, Citing Ethyl Acrylate as an Example (Last Updated: 4/3/12)

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The Presidential/Congressional Commission on Risk Assessment and Risk Management was established by the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments to review the practices of all federal agencies engaged in health risk assessment and management. The Commission endorsed the use of animal studies to identify and classify potential human carcinogens, but specifically identified forestomach tumors produced by gavage dosing as an exception. The Commission's Final Report cited ethyl acrylate as an example:

[A] tumor response that is believed to be irrelevant to humans is that which occurs only in the rodent forestomach after administration of a chemical by gavage (that is, via a tube placed in the stomach). Gavage is convenient for determining whether a chemical can cause tumors in organs distant from the stomach after absorption into the bloodstream, but can result in local cytotoxicity and hyperplasia. At least three commercially important chemicals [ethyl acrylate, butylated hydroxyanisole, and propionic acid] have been found to produce tumors only in the forestomach and only following gavage There is no evidence of a similar effect in humans (who lack forestomachs) and no scenario in which similar high dose local exposure would occur. (p. 67).

Thus, an independent expert commission also has determined that the forestomach tumors caused by ethyl acrylate following gavage dosing at high levels are not relevant to humans.

Reference:

1. Presidential/Congressional Commission on Risk Assessment and Risk Management (1997). *Risk Assessment and Risk Management in Regulatory Decision-Making*, Final Report Volume 2 (1997) (excerpts).

Disclaimer

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