

Canada proposes six chemicals ban in toys, new lead limits

June 19 2009



A bunch of children toys. Canada's Health Minister Leona Aglukkaq on Friday proposed banning six commonly-used chemicals in soft vinyl toys and child-care articles, as well as new strict limits for lead in products.

Canada's Health Minister Leona Aglukkaq on Friday proposed banning six commonly-used chemicals in soft vinyl toys and child-care articles, as well as new strict limits for lead in products.

The regulation would prevent the use of a family of chemicals (known as phthalates DEHP, DINP, DBP, BBP, DNOP and DIDP) in squeeze or inflatable toys, dolls, animal figures, school supplies and vinyl bibs.

These chemicals are commonly used to make vinyl plastic, otherwise known as polyvinyl chloride or PVC.

Studies suggest that they "are hazardous to reproduction and development and may cause health effects such as liver and kidney failure in young children when products are sucked or chewed for extended periods," said a statement.

"These regulations are yet another measure this government is taking to help ensure that products intended for children are safe," said Aglukkaq.

"This is part of our overall efforts to ensure that families have confidence in the quality and safety of what they buy," she said.

The health minister also proposed a limit of 90 milligrams of lead per kilogram of product in [toys](#) for [children](#) under three years of age; mouthpieces used in sports equipment (such as snorkels) or in musical instruments; pacifiers; teethingers; baby bottle nipples; plastic beverage straws; and drinking cup spouts.

The proposed [lead](#) limit is "among the strictest limitations in the world," said the minister.

(c) 2009 AFP

Citation: Canada proposes six chemicals ban in toys, new lead limits (2009, June 19) retrieved 27 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2009-06-canada-chemicals-toys-limits.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--