

Women exposed to common antibacterial chemical more likely to break a bone

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Women exposed to triclosan are more likely to develop osteoporosis,

according to a study published in the Endocrine Society's *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism*.

Triclosan is an endocrine-disrupting chemical being widely used as an antibacterial in consumer goods and [personal care products](#), including soaps, hand sanitizers, toothpaste, and mouthwash. A person can be exposed to triclosan via consumer products and contaminated water. The FDA also [banned](#) triclosan from over-the-counter hand sanitizer in recent years.

"Laboratory studies have demonstrated that triclosan may have potential to adversely affect the bone mineral density in cell lines or in animals. However, little is known about the relationship between triclosan and human bone health," said the study's corresponding author, Yingjun Li, Ph.D., of Hangzhou Medical College School of Public Health in Hangzhou, China. "As far as we know, this is the first epidemiological study to investigate the association between triclosan exposure with bone mineral density and osteoporosis in a nationally [representative sample](#) from U.S. [adult women](#)."

In this study, researchers analyzed data from 1,848 women in the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey to determine the link between triclosan and bone health. They found women with higher levels of triclosan in their urine were more likely to have bone issues.

More information: The study, "Association Between Urinary Triclosan with Bone Mass Density and Osteoporosis in the US Adult Women, 2005-2010," will be published online, ahead of print.

Provided by The Endocrine Society

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