

Melamine Background: Highly conservative assumptions about imported products made with contaminated Chinese milk indicate no health concerns for adults, but the potential for excessive melamine consumption among children eating large amounts of the imports.

http://www.efsa.europa.eu/EFSA/efsa_locale-1178620753812_1211902098495.htm

1. Note: direct import of dried milk solids into the EU from China is prohibited. The EU consideration of the threat from the contaminated Chinese milk focused on biscuit and confectionery products imported from China and made there with the domestic milk products.
2. EFSA applied a tolerable daily intake (TDI) of 0.5 mg/kg body weight (b.w.) in considering possible health effects which might occur with repeated consumption of melamine.
3. Melamine is approved for use as a monomer and as an additive in plastics with a specific migration limit [SML] of 30 mg/kg food (Commission Directive 2002/72/EC related to materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs from 6 August 2002).
4. Among all the [Chinese] companies having products with a positive detection of melamine, a maximum of 2,563 mg/kg was measured from one company. The range from other companies was 0.09 mg/kg to 619 mg/kg and the median for the reported maximum value from each company was 29 mg/kg. The highest melamine concentration found in liquid milk was 8.6 mg/kg.
5. For adults at 60 kg b.w. and children at 20 kg b.w., mean dietary exposure from biscuits (i.e. a wide variety of baked good) (mg/kg b.w. per day) is estimated at 0.15 and 0.45 respectively. Comparable amounts are added from toffee and chocolate consumption. These estimates are not considered excessive for adults, but for children consuming high levels of these products could have melamine intake greater than the TDI.