Di(2-ethylhexyl) adipate

What is Di(2-ethylhexyl) adipate?

DEHA is used mainly as a plasticizer for synthetic resins such as PVC, but significant amounts are also used as a lubricant and for hydraulic fluids.

Does Di(2-ethylhexyl) adipate have any additional names?

DEHA; bis(2-ethylhexyl) adipate

What are the known health effects?

Some people who drink water containing DEHA well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience toxic effects such as weight loss, liver enlargement, or possible reproductive problems.

How does exposure occur?

Occupation exposure can occur through dermal contact and inhalation. The general population can be exposed through consumption of foods stored in plastic films. Exposure via drinking water is also possible since DEHA is also used as a plasticizer in PVC materials and is known to leach from plumbing made from PVC plastic.

Is this contaminant regulated?

Yes, and water supplied to Mount Laurel MUA customers is in compliance with USEPA and NJDEP requirements. The maximum concentration of DEHA permitted in drinking water is 400 ppb; water supplied by the MLTMUA system has not reported any detections of DEHA.

How can I reduce exposure?

Di(2-ethylhexyl) adipate in drinking water can be removed by point of use granulated activated carbon filtration.

Additional information regarding Di(2-ethylhexyl) adipate, including the information referenced, can be found at:
https://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/iris/iris_documents/documents/subst/0420_summary.pdf
https://www.who.int/teams/environment-climate-change-and-health/water-sanitation-and-health/chemical-hazards-in-drinking-water/di-2-ethylhexyl-adipate