

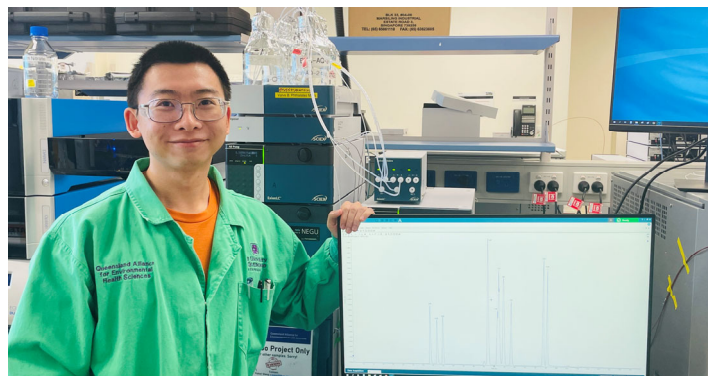
Unexpected chemicals in multilayer packaging

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Packaging might contaminate our food

Multilayer plastics are a new type of material, recently invented. They are commonly used in soft, flexible plastic packaging, such as baby food pouches, chip bags and microwavable meals. Instead of using a single material like water bottles, multilayer plastics contains layers of different materials which are glued together. Little research has been done to find out if chemicals from multilayered plastics can migrate into food. We want to analyse samples of urine find out if we are exposed to chemicals when consuming food packaged in multilayer plastics.



Pictured: Ken Tang with analytical instrument

Our questions for you

- Have you heard of multilayer plastics before? If yes, where have you noticed them in products you buy regularly?
- What is the most important issue for you with the use of plastics in food packaging?
- We would like people to participate in our study, by consuming a food that is packaged in multilayered plastics and then donating a sample of their urine. How would you suggest we invite people to participate in this study?
- What do you think the public needs to know about plastics used in food packaging? In what ways do you think we should share the findings of our research?

Future involvement opportunities

- Who:** Everyone is welcome, but we are particularly keen to include infants who consume pre-packaged baby food purees.
- What:** A one-day visit to the Qld Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences (QAEHS) to participate in this study.
- When:** To be confirmed, in 2023
- Where:** QAEHS, 20 Cornwall Street (near PA hospital)
- How:** Participants will be invited to eat a portion of commercially available food, that is sold in multilayered plastic packaging. Afterwards, they will be asked to provide a urine sample for analysis.
- Why:** Human study plays an important role in this study as it helps to understand how these chemicals are being processed in our body, as well as the amount that we are exposed to.



Scan the QR Code to get in touch with Ken to find out more about consumer involvement on this project.

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I acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land where I work and live. I pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

Queensland Alliance for Environment Health Sciences

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