

# PFAS

## (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances)



### What are PFAS?

**PFAS are often referred to as “forever chemicals” because they take hundreds or even thousands of years to break down in the environment.**

They are used as coatings to repel water, grease and stains, as well as in fire-fighting foams.

PFAS have been detected in polyvinyl chloride (PVC), polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polypropylene (PP), polystyrene (PS) and polyamide (PA) plastic materials.

PFAS may also form in the contents of plastic containers treated with surface fluorination, a chemical process to make the packaging less porous (leaky).

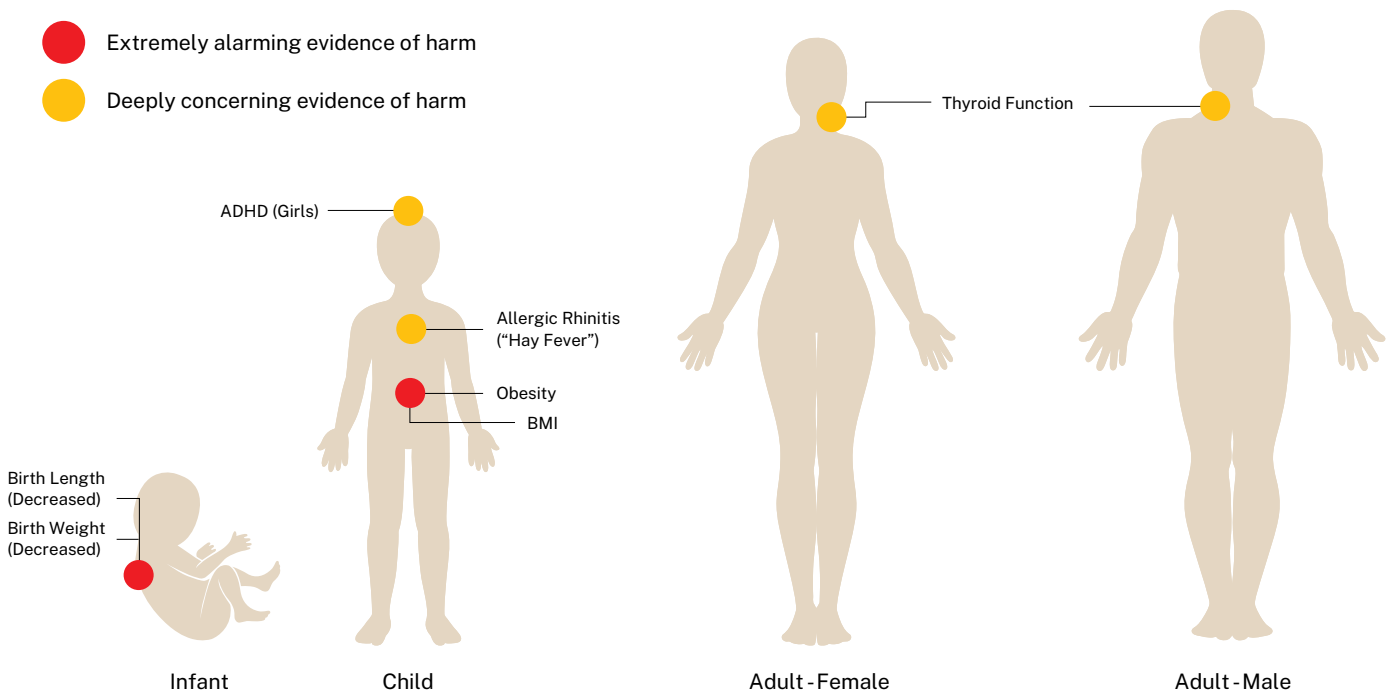
**PFAS exposure often occurs through the use of these products:**

- Non-stick cookware
- Plastic food packaging
- Grease-resistant food packaging (e.g. some paperboard packaging)
- Cosmetics
- Water- and stain-resistant coatings for clothes, furniture, carpets and car seats
- Adhesives and sealants



### PFAS exposure increases the risk of a number of health issues:

- Extremely alarming evidence of harm
- Deeply concerning evidence of harm



#### Sources:

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