

PFAS (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances)



What are PFAS?

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

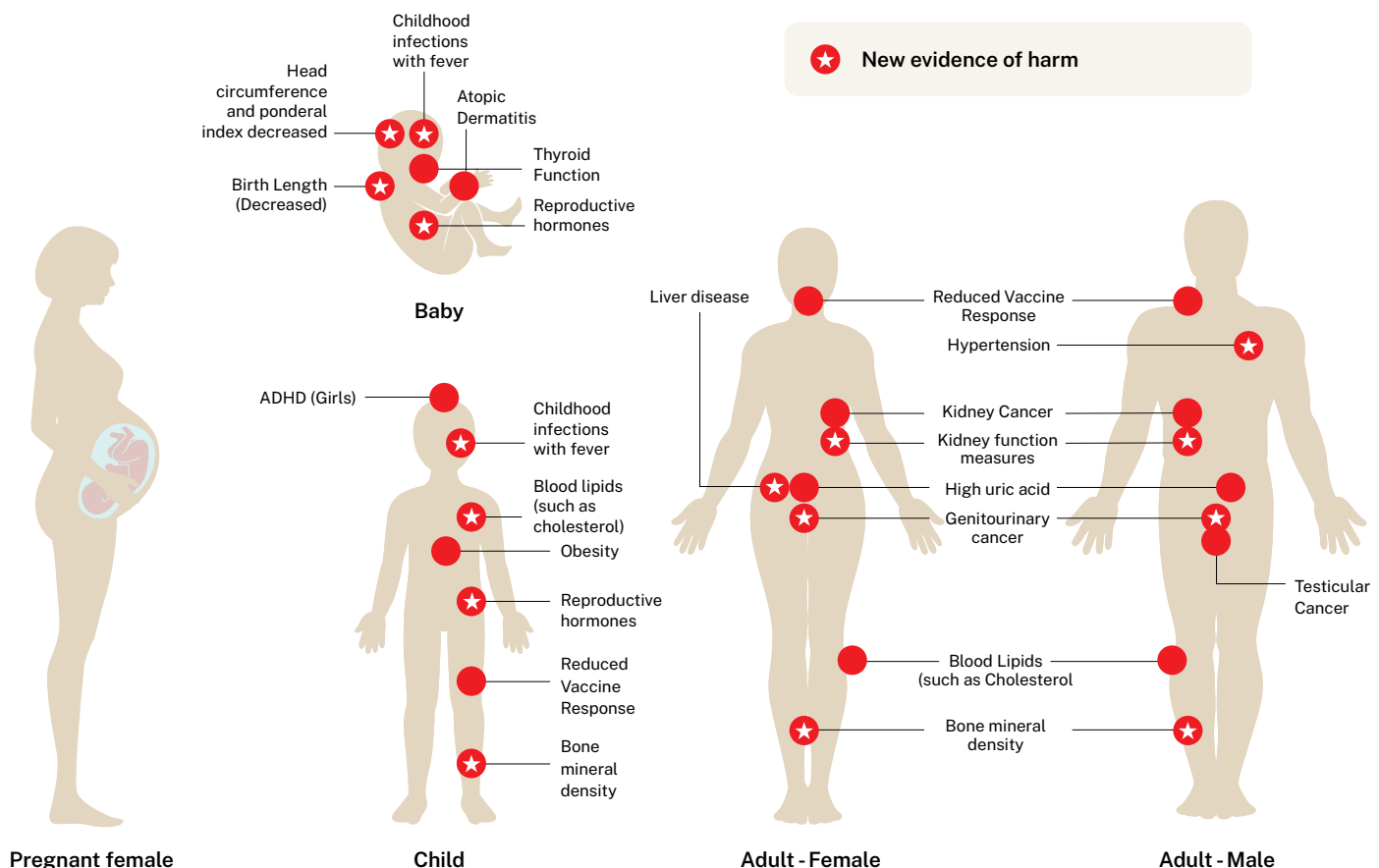
They are often referred to as “forever chemicals” because they take hundreds or even thousands of years to break down in the environment. PFAS have been detected in polyvinyl chloride (PVC), polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polypropylene (PP), polystyrene (PS) and polyamide (PA) plastic materials.

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

There is consistent and significant evidence between PFAS exposure and multiple health harms:



Sources:

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