

Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2003 11:56 AM
Subject: PRESCRIPTION DRUGS IN CANADIAN TAP WATER

Dear Aquathin Dealer OnLine, Splash NewsBulletin and Allergic Reaction NewsBulletin Members with special attention to Aquathin Canada Dealers;

You have received several Splash NewsBulletins concerning the issue of prescription drugs in tap water in the U.S. and Europe. Go straight to the bottom of the quick read below and you will see that drugs are not tested for and have no limits. Earlier we sent NewsBulletins discussing the bioaccumulation of low chemical doses and possible catalytic effects causing illness or aggravation of existing illnesses. While governments and labs seek answers, one sure answer is this....WE'D RATHER NOT DRINK IT, BATH IN IT, COOK WITH IT.

Warmest regards to all,

FOR THE BEST TASTE IN LIFE
Think Aquathin..AquathinK !!
Celebrating our 23rd Birthday in 2003 !!!
(visit the allnew <http://www.aquathin.com>)

"Alfie"
Alfred J. Lipshultz, President

P.S. "Splash NewsBulletins", "Forum Q & A" , "Allergic Reaction" , Biz Bank, Tech Bank and Quote Bank... ARE ALL FREE services to all Authorized Aquathin Dealers and their clients to keep you abreast of technology updates and industry news.

Environment - 2/10/2003 11:25:12 AM

Traces of prescription drugs found in Canadian drinking water

MONTREAL — Trace amounts of prescription drugs have been detected in the drinking water of four Canadian communities, the [*Globe and Mail*](#) reported.

The newspaper said the drugs were found through laboratory tests funded jointly by *Globe and Mail* and CTV of water samples taken from 10 Canadian communities.

Health Canada's Director of Regulatory Affairs Karen Proud said research is so preliminary that regulators don't know whether the drug traces are hazardous, but there is enough evidence to warrant investigation, the newspaper reported.

The tests detected carbamazepine, an anticonvulsant given for epileptic seizures, in tap water from Montreal, Hamilton, and Brooks, a rural community in southern Alberta downstream of Calgary's sewage outflow, said the article.

Another drug, gemfibrozil, used to reduce cholesterol levels, was found in Portage La Prairie, a Manitoba community, the newspaper said.

The tests, by Enviro-Test Laboratories of Ottawa, found the drug residues in concentrations in the 6.5- to 70-parts-per-trillion range, said the article.

"Right now, there [are] a lot of unanswered research questions, research that has to be conducted," said Detlef Birkholz, vice president of research at Enviro-Test and adjunct professor at the University of Alberta's faculty of pharmacy, according to the *Globe and Mail*.

He said that even though the concentrations are very low, they could effect sensitive populations, such as fetuses and people with weakened immune systems, the article stated.

The newspaper said the tests were not intended to provide an exhaustive picture of drinking water supplies in Canada and researchers do not know if there are any ill effects for people exposed to extremely small quantities of pharmaceuticals.

In Europe, drugs have been detected in drinking water supplies, though similar research hasn't been published in Canada and the United States, according to the newspaper.

Health Canada and Environment Canada are currently surveying 24 Ontario communities to check if drug residues have entered water supplies and agencies are considering expanding their testing to the rest of Canada next year, the newspaper said.

There is no requirement in Canada to test drinking water for drug residues and no regulatory limits on these contaminants.