Review article

Biomonitoring of human exposures to chlorinated derivatives and structural analogs of bisphenol A

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A B S T R A C T

The high reactivity of bisphenol A (BPA) with disinfectant chlorine is evident in the instantaneous formation of chlorinated BPA derivatives (ClxBPA) in various environmental media that show increased estrogen-activity when compared with that of BPA. The documented health risks associated with BPA exposures have led to the gradual market entry of BPA structural analogs, such as bisphenol S (BPS), bisphenol F (BPF), bisphenol B (BPB), etc. A suite of exposure sources to ClxBPA and BPA analogs in the domestic environment is anticipated to drive the nature and range of halogenated BPA derivatives that can form when residual BPA comes in contact with disinfectant in tap water and/or consumer products. The primary objective of this review was to survey all available studies reporting biomonitoring protocols of ClxBPA and structural BPA analogs (BPS, BPF, BPB, etc.) in human matrices. Focus was paid on describing the analytical methodologies practiced for the analysis of ClxBPA and BPA analogs using hyphenated chromatography and mass spectrometry techniques, because current methodologies for human matrices are complex. During the last decade, an increasing number of ecotoxicological, cell-culture and animal-based and human studies dealing with ClxBPA exposure sources and routes of exposure, metabolism and toxicity have been published. Up to date findings indicated the association of ClxBPA with metabolic conditions, such as obesity, lipid accumulation, and type 2 diabetes mellitus, particularly in in-vitro and in-vivo studies. We critically discuss the limitations, research needs and future opportunities linked with the inclusion of ClxBPA and BPA analogs into exposure assessment protocols of relevant epidemiological studies.

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1. Introduction

Bisphenol A (BPA), 2,2-bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)propane, is a synthetic compound that is widely used as a monomer in polycarbonate plastics and epoxy resins, being one of the world's highest production volume chemicals. Scientific reports linked BPA exposures to the development of obesity and type II diabetes mellitus (T2DM) in humans (Bodin et al., 2015; Chevallier and Fénichel, 2015; Lakind et al., 2014; Oppeneer and Robien, 2015; Rezag et al., 2014). Numerous studies reported the association between urine BPA levels and long-term metabolic disorders such as diabetes/impairment of glucose metabolism (Hong et al., 2009; Kim and Park, 2013; LaKind et al., 2012; Lang et al., 2008; Li et al., 2012; Melzer et al., 2010; Ning et al., 2011; Olsén et al., 2012; Shankar and Teppala, 2011; Silver et al., 2011; Takeuchi et al., 2004; Teppala et al., 2012; Wang et al., 2012a; Wang et al., 2012b) and obesity (Bloom et al., 2011; Carwile and Michaels, 2011; Galloway et al., 2010; Kim et al., 2012; Ko et al., 2014; Lee et al., 2014; Melzer et al., 2012; Mok-Lin et al., 2010; Olsén et al., 2012; Shankar et al., 2012; Song et al., 2014a; Takeuchi and Tsutsumi, 2002; Takeuchi et al., 2004; Tarantino et al., 2013; Wang et al., 2012b; Yang et al., 2009; Zhao et al., 2012). The frequency of new incidences of the aforementioned metabolic diseases is expected to continue growing in the next couple of decades (Yach et al., 2006; Swinburn et al., 2011), suggesting the environment and lifestyle/behavior as major risk factors for metabolic diseases (Diamanti-Kandarakis et al., 2009; Jeon et al., 2015).

The BPA occurrence in the environment and consumer products is ubiquitous (Kang et al., 2006; Staples et al., 1998; Vandenberg et al., 2007; Vandenberg et al., 2010). Concerns over the aforementioned health outcomes associated with BPA exposures in human studies have resulted for the gradual market entry of BPA structural analogs in consumer products that are speculatively considered safer (BPA-free) than BPA, such as bisphenol S (BPS), bisphenol F (BPF), bisphenol B (BPB), bisphenol AF (BPAF), and observed entering environment and humans (Liao et al., 2012a; Liu et al., 2012b; Liao et al., 2012c; Liao et al., 2012d). The high reactivity of BPA with disinfectant chlorine (in the forms of either hypochlorite or free chlorine radicals) is evident in the instantaneous formation of chlorinated BPA derivatives (ClₓBPA) (Gallard et al., 2004; Liu et al., 2009; Yamamoto and Yasuhara, 2002). Similar reactivity to disinfectant chlorine is anticipated for structural BPA analogs but this remains to be experimentally documented. The formation kinetics and reactions of ClₓBPA derivatives have been documented in laboratory experiments using chlorinated tap water and BPA (Gallard et al., 2004). Hypochlorite ions are often added to finished tap water as disinfectant and they are held responsible for the electrophilic attack of phenolic groups in BPA, acting as a precursor of ClₓBPA formation (Gallard et al., 2004; Liu et al., 2009; Yamamoto and Yasuhara, 2002). The main ClₓBPA derivatives reported so far in the literature are: mono-(ClBPA), di-(Cl₂BPA), tri-(Cl₃BPA) and tetra-chlorobisphenol (Cl₄BPA) (Lee et al., 2004; Rebene et al., 1996). Available carbon atom positions for chlorination on the BPA molecule and resulting in the formation of respective ClₓBPA, and the structural analogs of BPA are presented in Table 1.

Occurrence of ClₓBPA derivatives has been widely reported in a suite of water bodies bodies (Ballesteros et al., 2006; Bastos et al., 2008; Bourgin et al., 2013a; Bourgin et al., 2013b; Bulloch et al., 2015; Casatta et al., 2015; Chang et al., 2014; Chang et al., 2012; Dorival-Garcia et al., 2012a; Dorival-Garcia et al., 2012b; Dupuis et al., 2012; Fan et al., 2013; Fukazawa et al., 2001; Fukazawa et al., 2002; Gallard et al., 2004; Gallart-Ayala et al., 2007; Gallart-Ayala et al., 2010; Kosaka et al., 2012; Lane et al., 2015; Li et al., 2015; Ruan et al., 2015; Song et al., 2014b; Voordeekers et al., 2002; Yamamoto and Yasuhara, 2002; Yang et al., 2014a; Yang et al., 2014b; Yuan et al., 2011; Yuan et al., 2010; Zafra-Gómez et al., 2008; Zafra et al., 2003). In addition, BPA is frequently detected in thermal receipts (Fan et al., 2015; Hormann et al., 2014) and certain personal care- and household-cleaning products, such as, bar soaps, facial/body lotions, shampoo, dishwashing and laundry detergent, and toilet bowl cleaner (Dodson et al., 2012). Reported BPA levels in these consumer products ranged between ~10 µg g⁻¹ and up to ~100 µg g⁻¹ (Dodson et al., 2012), while it was as high as 20 mg g⁻¹ on thermal receipt paper (Hormann et al., 2014). Residual BPA in these products when come in contact with chlorine-containing water or household cleaning products may react to yield ClₓBPA (unpublished experimental observations in our laboratory). Recycled plastic and paper raw materials often contain residual BPA that can react yield ClₓBPA in a suite of personal care, and household cleaning products and food contact papers (Zhou et al., 2015). A suite of exposure sources to ClₓBPA in the domestic environment is anticipated to drive the nature and range of halogenated derivatives that can form when residual BPA comes in contact with chlorine and other chemical constituents in household tap water and consumer products. This may lead to subsequent exposure to humans with unknown intensities, duration of exposures and possible health effects.

During the past decade, structural BPA analogs have been replacing BPA in numerous industrial, commercial and consumer products, such as, container linings (Oldring et al., 2006), infant food formulae (Cunha et al., 2011), polycarbonate food container linings (Fromme et al., 2002), thermal receipts (Becerra and Odermatt, 2012; Liao et al., 2012c), and canned and packaged food and beverages (Cacho et al., 2012; Grumetto et al., 2008; Liao and Kannan, 2013; Viñas et al., 2010). As a result, BPA structural analogs have been also detected in various environmental media, such as, indoor dust (Liao et al., 2012b; Wang et al., 2012c), food (Petersen et al., 2003), food contact recycled paper items (Perez-Palacios et al., 2012), water and sediment (Liao et al., 2012d), etc.

An increasing frequency of scientific reports are found in the literature dealing with the sources and routes of human exposure, biomonitoring, metabolism, and toxicity of ClₓBPA and BPA structural analogs in ecotoxicological and animal studies, albeit less in humans. The occurrence of BPA structural analogs in human matrices has been recently reported (Vela-Soria et al., 2014a; Vela-Soria et al., 2014b; Xue et al., 2015; Yang et al., 2014a; Zhou et al., 2014). Hence, it is a timely topic to summarize the current research status and discuss future opportunities in this review. The primary objective of this review was to survey all available studies reporting biomonitoring of ClₓBPA and BPA structural analogs in human matrices. Focus was paid on describing the analytical methodologies practiced for the analysis of ClₓBPA and BPA structural analogs using high performance liquid chromatography and mass spectrometry techniques, because current methodologies for extraction and analysis...
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common name</th>
<th>Systematic name</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>R₁</th>
<th>R₂</th>
<th>R₃</th>
<th>R₄</th>
<th>Formula</th>
<th>Molecular mass</th>
<th>Representative structure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bisphenol A</td>
<td>2,2-Bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)propane</td>
<td>BPA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C₁₅H₁₆O₂</td>
<td>228.29</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Structure of Bisphenol A" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-Chlorobisphenol A</td>
<td>2-Chloro-4-[1-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-1-methylethyl]phenol</td>
<td>ClBPA</td>
<td>Cl</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C₁₅H₁₅ClO₂</td>
<td>262.73</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Structure of 3-Chlorobisphenol A" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,5-Dichlorobisphenol A</td>
<td>2,6-Dichloro-4-[1-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-1-methylethyl]phenol</td>
<td>Cl₂BPA or 2,6-Cl₂BPA</td>
<td>Cl</td>
<td>Cl</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C₁₅H₁₄Cl₂O₂</td>
<td>297.18</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Structure of 3,5-Dichlorobisphenol A" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,3′-Dichlorobisphenol A</td>
<td>2-Chloro-4-[1-(3-chloro-4-hydroxyphenyl)-1-methylethyl]phenol</td>
<td>2,2-Cl₂BPA</td>
<td>Cl</td>
<td>Cl</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C₁₅H₁₄Cl₂O₂</td>
<td>297.18</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Structure of 3,3′-Dichlorobisphenol A" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,3′,5-Trichlorobisphenol A</td>
<td>2,6-Dichloro-4-[1-(3-chloro-4-hydroxyphenyl)-1-methylethyl]phenol</td>
<td>Cl₃BPA</td>
<td>Cl</td>
<td>Cl</td>
<td>Cl</td>
<td></td>
<td>C₁₅H₁₃Cl₃O₂</td>
<td>331.62</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Structure of 3,3′,5-Trichlorobisphenol A" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,3′,5,3′,5′-Tetrachlorobisphenol A</td>
<td>2,6-Dichloro-4-[1-(3,5-dichloro-4-hydroxyphenyl)-1-methylethyl]phenol</td>
<td>Cl₄BPA</td>
<td>Cl</td>
<td>Cl</td>
<td>Cl</td>
<td>Cl</td>
<td>C₁₅H₁₂Cl₄O₂</td>
<td>366.07</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Structure of 3,3′,5,3′,5′-Tetrachlorobisphenol A" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bisphenol B</td>
<td>2,2-Bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)butane</td>
<td>BPB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C₁₆H₁₈O₂</td>
<td>242.31</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Structure of Bisphenol B" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bisphenol F</td>
<td>1,1-Bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)methane</td>
<td>BPF</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C₁₃H₁₀O₂</td>
<td>200.23</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Structure of Bisphenol F" /></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bisphenol S</td>
<td>4,4′-Sulfonyldiphenol</td>
<td>BPS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C₁₂H₁₀O₅S</td>
<td>250.27</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Structure of Bisphenol S" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bisphenol AF</td>
<td>4-[1,1,3,3,3-Hexafluoro-2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)propan-2-yl]phenol</td>
<td>BPAF</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C₁₃H₁₅F₆O₂</td>
<td>336.23</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Structure of Bisphenol AF" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bisphenol A diglycidyl ether</td>
<td>2,2-Bis(4-glycidyloxyphenyl)propane</td>
<td>BADGE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C₁₃H₂₄O₄</td>
<td>340.42</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Structure of Bisphenol A diglycidyl ether" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
in human matrices are often complex and time-consuming. A brief discussion was also provided on the human exposure sources and routes to \( \text{Cl}_x\text{BPA} \), their metabolism and toxicity observed from in vitro and in vivo studies and human health effects, including current limitations and future research needs. In the following sub-sections, we review each one of these topics by gathering relevant reported studies in the literature.

2. Chlorinated derivatives and structural analogs of bisphenol A

2.1. Literature search

A comprehensive literature search in Scopus (1960 onwards) was performed in order to identify studies reporting biomonitoring of \( \text{Cl}_x\text{BPA} \) and BPA structural analogs in human matrices. Using multiple combinations of keywords (bisphenol* AND (chlorin* OR chlorinated OR chloro*) AND (derivative* OR analog* OR substitute*)) we performed the search on 25–26 May 2015 that resulted in 442 articles. PubMed and Web of Science search using the same keywords resulted in 58 and 272 articles, respectively; henceforth we used the results of the Scopus database. Further screening for studies of human relevance from the aforementioned search was achieved by using keywords “(urine OR blood OR plasma OR serum OR placenta OR hair or cord OR milk OR adipose OR colostrum OR nail* OR tissue* OR fluid* OR human*)”. Resulting efforts narrowed the hits to 156 articles which were assessed for inclusion by reading either the abstract or full text or both. Eligible studies were screened to obtain relevant back referenced citations and concurrent citing articles for possible inclusion. Altogether, 14 and 9 relevant articles reporting \( \text{Cl}_x\text{BPA} \) and structural BPA analogs in human matrices, respectively, were selected for further reviewing. Studies reporting \( \text{Cl}_x\text{BPA} \) in human matrices ranged from analysis of (i) adipose tissue (Fernandez et al., 2007), (ii) placenta (Jimenez-Diaz et al., 2010; Vela-Soria et al., 2011; Vela-Soria et al., 2015; Cunha and Fernandez, 2014; Zhou et al., 2014; Asimakopoulos et al., 2014; Xue and Yasuhara, 2002) and (viii) food contact paper (Zhou et al., 2015). It was also speculated that the presence of gaseous free chlorine leading to the formation of a new set of by-products and derivatives (Von Gunten, 2003; Von Gunten and Salhi, 2003). Moreover, presence of bromide ions favors the formation of hypobromite ions that react vigorously with phenol groups and resultin in formation of a suite of halogenated derivatives of BPA. A metabolomics-type approach was undertaken for untargeted profiling of BPA transformation products using high resolution mass spectrometry (LC-HRMS), which resulted in the identification of a novel set of 21 chlorination products and 17 brominated compounds of BPA (Bourgin et al., 2013a). However, mechanisms and environmental conditions behind the formation of these BPA transformation products have not been proposed. A targeted profiling approach for the identification and quantification of halogenated BPA transformation products in drinking water reaching household units to estimate human exposure is yet to be undertaken.

Residual BPA often found in chlorine-containing household cleaning (e.g., dishwashing and laundry detergent, and toilet cleaning solution) and personal hygiene products (e.g., bar soap, body lotion, shampoo/conditioner, shaving cream) (Dodson et al., 2012) could act as a source for \( \text{Cl}_x\text{BPA} \) formation, when in contact with chlorine-containing tap water. Chlorine-containing household products often take the form of (i) cleaning products that contain sodium hypochlorite (kitchen countertop/floor/toilet cleaners, bleaching and scouring powders, stain removing sprays/gels, etc.) (Odabasi, 2008), (ii) bleach-containing laundry detergents (Nazaroff and Weschler, 2004), (iii) hypochlorite containing dishwasher detergents (Olson and Corsi, 2004), and (iv) bleached clothes and fabrics (Leri and Anthony, 2013). Other than oral ingestion of \( \text{Cl}_x\text{BPA} \) from drinking water and food sources; dermal uptake and inhalation may be also considered relevant routes of exposure because the addition of chlorine atoms to BPA may increase the lipophilicity of \( \text{Cl}_x\text{BPA} \) derivatives, and related dermal uptake rates. This is putatively supported by the evidence that higher \( \text{Cl}_x\text{BPA} \) to BPA concentration ratios were measured in fatty tissues when compared to the corresponding urine-based ratios (Cariot et al., 2012; Fernandez et al., 2007; Jimenez-Diaz et al., 2010; Liao and Kannan, 2012; Migeot et al., 2013). It was also speculated that the presence of gaseous free chlorine atoms or chloriform in the air, could react with BPA resulting in chlorinated BPA formation and subsequent exposures via the inhalation

Fromme et al., 2002), (iv) bisphenol S (BPS) in thermal receipts (Becerra and Odermatt, 2012; Liao et al., 2012c), (v) BADGE and derivatives in indoor dust (Wang et al., 2012c) and food (Petersen et al., 2003), (vi) BPF, BADGE and BDGE in food contact recycled paper items (Perez-Palacios et al., 2012), (vii) BBP, BPF and BPS in canned and packaged food and beverages (Cacho et al. 2012; Grunetto et al. 2008; Liao and Kannan 2013; Viñas et al. 2010), (viii) BPAF, BBF, BPF and BPS in indoor dust (Liao et al., 2012b) and water and sediment (Liao et al., 2012d), etc.

BPA and \( \text{Cl}_x\text{BPA} \) derivatives are ubiquitous in environmental matrices, including water resources. For example, BPA has been reported in surface waters (Fromme et al., 2002; Stachel et al., 2003), and in finished drinking water (Fan et al., 2013). Application of chlorine-based disinfectants to water is necessary for the removal of harmful microorganisms from tap water prior to reaching consumer taps. Thus, BPA may react with chlorine compounds in water (Fukazawa et al., 2001; Gallard et al., 2004; Hu et al., 2002; Lee et al., 2004; Yamamoto and Yasuhara, 2002), resulting in the addition of chlorine atoms to the phenolic aromatic moieties on BPA by electrophilic substitution at ortho-position. A higher frequency of detection and magnitude of \( \text{Cl}_x\text{BPA} \) concentrations in finished tap water than in source waters has been observed (Fan et al., 2013), underlying the prerequisite of disinfectant presence for the formation of \( \text{Cl}_x\text{BPA} \). The percent detection and levels of \( \text{Cl}_x\text{BPA} \) in drinking water samples were (i) 97% and 3–27 ng L\(^{-1}\) for CBIPA, (ii) 98% and 1–6 ng L\(^{-1}\) for \( \text{Cl}_x\text{BPA} \), (iii) 60% and 2–8 ng L\(^{-1}\) for \( \text{Cl}_x\text{BPA} \), and (iv) 50% and 0.3–5 ng L\(^{-1}\) for \( \text{Cl}_x\text{BPA} \) (Table 2) (Fan et al., 2013). Recent developments in studying transformation products of BPA in water resources took into consideration the presence of dissolved natural organic matter and inorganic bromine, which potentially compete with chlorine leading to the formation of a new set of by-products and derivatives (Von Gunten, 2003; Von Gunten and Salhi, 2003).
route, but this remains to be experimentally investigated. Use of chlorine-based products in routine activities (mopping, dish/clothes washing, etc.) was associated with increased urinary ClxBPA concentrations in an adult study population (Kalyvas et al., 2014); however, further research in this field is needed.

Food contact papers (FCP) (coffee filter papers, etc.) have been recently reported to contain ClxBPA derivatives, because of the widespread occurrence of residual BPA in recycled paper and the possibility of chlorine-containing bleached paper due to the pulp bleaching procedure (Zhou et al., 2015). Bleached coffee filter paper when in contact with liquid coffee extract facilitated high migration rates of ClxBPA into filtered coffee (Zhou et al., 2015). Mean concentrations of ClxBPA derivatives in bleached FCP were 3 pg g\(^{-1}\) (Cl\(_2\)BPA) and 19 pg g\(^{-1}\) (CiBPA) compared to 0.7 pg g\(^{-1}\) (ClBPA) and 2 pg g\(^{-1}\) (CiBPA) in unbleached FCP (Zhou et al., 2015). The authors speculated that BPA in paper reacted with sodium hypochlorite during pulp bleaching procedures of paper production, and there by generating and accumulating ClxBPA in FCP.

2.3. Toxicity and Health Outcomes: from in-vitro and in-vivo to human studies

Based on in-vitro and in-vivo studies, the health risks of structural BPA analogs, such as for BPS and BPF have been extensively reviewed in recently published works (Eladak et al., 2015; Rochester and Bolden, 2015; Rosenmai et al., 2014); no human health studies involving structural BPA analogs’ exposures have been published so far. Although toxicity studies are important to establish the purpose of the analytical method development, metabolism and pharmacokinetic aspects are also crucial as they determine what metabolites/biomarkers as well as which biological matrices are important for human biomonitoring studies. However, no pharmacokinetics data were available for ClxBPA either in animals or humans. Hence, the metabolism and/or detoxification pathways, tissue distribution and percent elimination from the body remains unclear.

The biological plausibility of ClxBPA health effects was based on low-dose in vitro and in vivo experiments suggesting a higher (about 10 to 40 times) estrogenic activity of chlorinated BPA compared to BPA (Hu et al., 2002) that resulted in proliferation of breast cancer cells (Rivas et al., 2002) and uterine endometrium cells (Takemura et al., 2005). The estrogenic activity of chlorinated derivatives of BPA is considered to be higher than BPA (Nishikawa et al., 1999). For example, a yeast bioassay with equal concentrations of CiBPA, 2.6-CiBPA, 2, 2′-Cl\(_2\)BPA, ClBPA, and Cl\(_3\)BPA showed 8, 8, 38, 20 and 3-fold higher estrogenic activity than that of BPA (Fukazawa et al., 2002). The estrogenic activity of ClBPA is being studied and these compounds exhibit similar activity compared to BPA, which depending on the receptors can be slightly lower (Kuruto-Niwa et al., 2002; Molina-Molina et al., 2013), or higher (Fukazawa et al., 2002; Liu et al., 2005; Takemura et al., 2005; Terasaki et al., 2011; Yamauchi et al., 2003). However, certain studies indicated that the offset of estrogenic activity of ClBPA occurs at lower concentrations than those of BPA (Babu et al., 2012; Kuruto-Niwa et al., 2002; Viñas et al., 2013) and that biologically-relevant ClBPA concentrations triggered non-monotonic responses (Viñas et al., 2013), estrogenicity (Kuruto-Niwa et al., 2002; Kuruto-Niwa et al., 2005), genotoxicity (Ozaki et al., 2004; Riu et al., 2011a; Riu et al., 2011b; Riu et al., 2014), energy disruption metabolism (Le Maire et al., 2009; Riu et al., 2011a; Riu et al., 2014), and other minor and localized effects.

Few toxicological studies reported the link between the formation of BPA derivatives, altered BPA metabolism (Jaeg et al., 2004; Nakamura et al., 2011) and induction of inflammatory outcomes (oxidative stress and oxidative cellular damage) that related to insulin resistance pathophysiology in rat hepatocytes (Bindhumol et al., 2002). Possible reactions between BPA and cellular oxidants (e.g., peroxynitrite, hypochlorite or hypochlorous acid) may yield ClxBPA due to oxidative biotransformation reactions (Babu et al., 2012). The authors’ demonstrated the formation of chlorinated and nitrated derivatives when BPA reacted with hypochlorite/hypochlorous acid and peroxynitrite at neutral pH in a beaker setup. Further, they performed a molecular docking study showing that the putatively formed derivatives had stronger binding affinity for the human estrogen-related receptor-gamma (ERR\(_\gamma\)) compared to estradiol. Under oxidative stress conditions, the neutrophil and macrophage derived oxidants, such as peroxynitrite, hypochlorite or hypochlorous acid prevailed in biological systems. Hence, the likelihood of BPA reactions with cellular oxidants to form ClBPA via phase I biotransformation (Babu et al., 2012). Such alternative metabolic pathways may account for 20–25% of BPA that do not follow the conventional glucuronidation pathway (Yoshihara et al., 2004). These findings merit further investigation on alternate metabolites of BPA with varied estrogenic potencies (Ye et al., 2011), and presumably varying half-lives of elimination. The presence of such alternative metabolic pathways in the formation of ClBPA in humans has not yet been reported. Halogenated BPA compounds showed 10- to 100-times higher binding affinity to peroxisome proliferator-activated receptors than BPA (Riu et al., 2011a,b) whose dysfunction was associated with the onset of obesity and T2DM in vivo (Somm et al., 2009; Swedeborg et al., 2009). In addition, photodegradation of ClBPA altered their estrogenic activity (Gallart-Ayala et al., 2007; Ibuki et al., 2008; Mutou et al., 2006, 2008), while sulfonation of ClBPA (viz., Cl\(_3\)BPA) did not eliminate their estrogenic activity, contrary to the effect of sulfonation on BPA (Riu et al., 2011a,b). It is expected that ClBPA derivatives are detoxified to non-toxic forms in humans similar to BPA molecule (e.g. Cl\(_3\)BPA bio-transformed to sulfonated metabolites in Zebra fish, (Riu et al., 2014)). However, recent in-vitro findings suggested that the glucuronide form of BPA was able to induce adipocyte differentiation in human and 3T3L1 murine preadipocytes (Boucher et al., 2015). The pharmacokinetics and toxicodynamics of ClBPA derivatives in humans is currently unclear. Similar to BPA, a wide inter- and intra-individual exposure variability and clearance patterns are also anticipated for ClBPA derivatives in the human physiological system, but this remains to be investigated.

Limited evidence is currently available on the health effects associated with ClBPA exposures. It was shown that ClBPA and Cl\(_2\)BPA increased thyroid hormone activities but inhibited triiodothyronine activity compared to ClBPA, CiBPA, and BPA using a yeast two-hybrid assay on rat liver S9 preparation (Terasaki et al., 2011). Tetrachloro (Cl\(_4\)BPA) and tetrabromobisphenol (Br\(_4\)BPA) induced lipid accumulation in a cell-culture study (Riu et al., 2011a,b). In a zebra fish model, these Cl\(_2\)BPA derivatives acted as obesogens (Riu et al., 2014; Tinguad-Sequeira et al., 2011). It was suggested that ClBPA exposure disrupted energy balance mechanisms due to agonism of peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor \(\gamma\) (PP\(\gamma\)AR) and activation of retinoid x receptors (RX\(\gamma\)Rs), leading to lipid accumulation (Le Maire et al., 2009; Riu et al., 2011a, 2014). Grow-out studies on zebrafish exposed to halogenated BPA during the early developmental phase showed an induction of obese condition at a later life stage (Riu et al., 2014), supporting the theory of later onset of obesity due to exposure to endocrine disrupting chemicals at early-life stages (Janesick and Blumberg, 2011a,b, 2012). In contrast to conjugated metabolites of BPA, monosulfonated forms of tetrachloro- and tetrabromo-BPA remained biologically active, acted as PP\(\gamma\)AR agonists and promoted lipid deposits in a Zebrafish animal model (Riu et al., 2014). If an association between sulfated forms of halogenated BPA derivatives and lipid accumulation and obesity is confirmed, then the default concept of benign conjugated BPA forms (Boucher et al., 2015) should be revisited in related toxicological studies.

In humans, BPA prenatal exposure effects on later life obesity have been already demonstrated, albeit with mixed results (Braun et al., 2014; Harley et al., 2013; Vali et al., 2013). A few epidemiological studies reported a positive association between BPA in biological matrices
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>BPA and its chlorinated derivatives</th>
<th>Matrix</th>
<th>Sample source and number</th>
<th>Sample extraction/clean-up/preparation</th>
<th>Instrumental analysis</th>
<th>Analytical column/mobile phase</th>
<th>LOD or MDL or LOQ</th>
<th>Recovery</th>
<th>Concentration</th>
<th>Reference</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>BPA, CBPA, 3,5-Cl2BPA, 3,3'-Cl2BPA, Cl3BPA, and Cl4BPA</td>
<td>Final effluent</td>
<td>Paper manufacturing plants; (n = 8)</td>
<td>LLE/dichloromethane/sylation with N,O-bis(trimethylsilyl) trifluoroacetamide</td>
<td>GC–MSD</td>
<td>HP-5 Trace Analysis capillary column with 5% diphenyl and 95% dimethyl arylene siloxane (30 m × 0.25 mm × 0.1 μm)/Helium (carrier gas)</td>
<td>Trace limits, tr (μL⁻¹): BPA (8–370), CBPA (~0.2–2.0), 3,5-Cl2BPA (~0.2–1.0), 3,3'-Cl2BPA (~0.2–0.5), Cl3BPA (0.9–1.2), and Cl4BPA (1.3–1.4)</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>Range (μg L⁻¹): BPA (8–370), CBPA (~0.2–2.0), 3,5-Cl2BPA (~0.2–1.0), 3,3'-Cl2BPA (~0.2–0.5), Cl3BPA (0.9–1.2), and Cl4BPA (1.3–1.4)</td>
<td>Fukazawa et al. (2001)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>BPA, CBPA, Cl3BPA, Cl4BPA, and Cl5BPA</td>
<td>Synthetic raw water</td>
<td>Beaker setup</td>
<td>SPE (polystyrene/divinylbenzene sorbent cartridge, 500 mg)</td>
<td>HPLC–MS (APCI, 1–ve mode)</td>
<td>Capillary Pak C18 UG120S3 silica packed LC column (150 mm × 4.6 mm × 3.0 μm)/mobile phase: acetonitrile/water (20:80, v/v) with 0.1% acetic acid.</td>
<td>Trace limits, tr (μL⁻¹): BPA (~0.2–1.0), 3,5-Cl2BPA (~0.2–1.0), 3,3'-Cl2BPA (~0.2–0.5), Cl3BPA (0.9–1.2), and Cl4BPA (1.3–1.4)</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>Range (μg L⁻¹): BPA (~0.2–1.0), 3,5-Cl2BPA (~0.2–1.0), 3,3'-Cl2BPA (~0.2–0.5), Cl3BPA (0.9–1.2), and Cl4BPA (1.3–1.4)</td>
<td>Fukazawa et al. (2002)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>BPA, CBPA, 3,5-Cl2BPA, 3,3'-Cl2BPA, Cl3BPA, and Cl4BPA</td>
<td>Wastewater effluent</td>
<td>Paper recycling plants; (n = 20)</td>
<td>LLE/dichloromethane/sylation with N,O-bis(trimethylsilyl) trifluoroacetamide</td>
<td>GC–MSD</td>
<td>HP-5 Trace Analysis capillary column (30 m × 0.25 mm × 0.1 μm)/Helium (carrier gas)</td>
<td>Trace limits, tr (μL⁻¹): BPA (~0.2–1.0), 3,5-Cl2BPA (~0.2–1.0), 3,3'-Cl2BPA (~0.2–0.5), Cl3BPA (0.9–1.2), and Cl4BPA (1.3–1.4)</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>Range (μg L⁻¹): BPA (~0.2–1.0), 3,5-Cl2BPA (~0.2–1.0), 3,3'-Cl2BPA (~0.2–0.5), Cl3BPA (0.9–1.2), and Cl4BPA (1.3–1.4)</td>
<td>Fukazawa et al. (2002)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>BPA, CBPA, Cl4BPA, and Cl5BPA</td>
<td>Sediment</td>
<td>Tidal strait (estuarine)</td>
<td></td>
<td>BPA and Cl4BPA: LLE/methanol; CBPA and Cl5BPA: acylation of the LLE extract/acetic anhydride</td>
<td>BPA and Cl5BPA: Spherelone 5 μm ODS (250 mm × 4.60 mm × 5 μm)/Mobile phase: methanol: water: acetic acid 25:70:5 (by volume); CBPA and Cl4BPA: GC–MSD</td>
<td>Detection limits, DLs (μmol L⁻¹): BPA (0.002), and Cl4BPA (0.005)</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>Range (μg L⁻¹): BPA (~0.2–1.0), 3,5-Cl2BPA (~0.2–1.0), 3,3'-Cl2BPA (~0.2–0.5), Cl3BPA (0.9–1.2), and Cl4BPA (1.3–1.4)</td>
<td>Yamamoto and Yasuhara (2002)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>BPA, CBPA, 2,6-Cl2BPA, 2,2'-Cl2BPA, Cl3BPA, and Cl4BPA</td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Beaker setup</td>
<td>LLE/dichloromethane</td>
<td>GC–MSD (electron impact ionization)</td>
<td>Detection limits, DLs (μmol L⁻¹): BPA (0.002), and Cl4BPA (0.005)</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>Yamamoto and Yasuhara (2002)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>BPA, CBPA, Cl3BPA, Cl4BPA, and Cl5BPA</td>
<td>Wastewater (urban)</td>
<td>Different places in WWTPs</td>
<td>LLE/dichloromethane: carbon tetrachloride (75:25, v/v)/syalation with N,O-bis(trimethylsilyl) trifluoroacetamide</td>
<td>GC–MSD</td>
<td>HP1-MS fused silica capillary column (30 m × 0.25 mm × 0.25 μm) (coated with methyl silicone gum phase)</td>
<td>Detection limits, DLs (μmol L⁻¹): BPA (0.3), CBPA (0.6), Cl3BPA (2.1), Cl4BPA (4.7), and Cl5BPA (12.9)</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>Range (ng mL⁻¹): BPA (104.1–106.7), CBPA (91.1–107.2), Cl3BPA (96.0–106.5), Cl4BPA (94.5–104.7), and Cl5BPA (93.4–101.7)</td>
<td>Zafra et al. (2003)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>BPA, CBPA, Cl3BPA, Cl4BPA, and Cl5BPA</td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Beaker setup</td>
<td>LLE/fractionation on a HPLC (Hichrom Spherisorb SS5ODS2, 250 mm × 4.6 mm)/methanol: water (60:40, v/v)/225 nm detection wavelength</td>
<td>GC–MSD</td>
<td>AT-SMS column (30 m × 0.25 mm × 0.25 μm)</td>
<td>Detection limits, DLs (μmol): BPA (2 × 10⁻⁶ μmol)</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>Gallard et al. (2004)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>BPA, CBPA, Cl3BPA, Cl4BPA, and Cl5BPA</td>
<td>Wastewater (urban)</td>
<td>WWTPs; (n = 6)</td>
<td>SPE/diethyl ether: methanol (9:1, v/v)</td>
<td>GC–MSD (electron impact ionization)</td>
<td>ZB-5 MS Zebate (30 m × 0.25 mm × 0.25 μm)/Helium (carrier gas)</td>
<td>Detection capabilities, DCs (ng L⁻¹): BPA (50), CBPA (40), Cl3BPA (90), Cl4BPA (~DC), and Cl5BPA (~DC)</td>
<td>Range (ng mL⁻¹): BPA (~DC), CBPA (~DC), Cl3BPA (~DC), Cl4BPA (~DC), and Cl5BPA (~DC)</td>
<td>Ballesteros et al. (2006)</td>
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Table 2 (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>Matrix</th>
<th>Sample source and number</th>
<th>Sample extraction/clean-up/preparation</th>
<th>Instrumental analysis</th>
<th>Analytical column/mobile phase</th>
<th>LOD or MDL or LOQ</th>
<th>Recovery</th>
<th>Concentration</th>
<th>Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>BPA, CIBPA, Cl₂BPA, Cl₃BPA, and Cl₄BPA</td>
<td>Wastewater Paper recycling plant; (n = 1)</td>
<td>SPE (Bond Elut C18, 500 mg)/methanol: water (20:80, v/v)</td>
<td>HPLC–MS/MS (ESI, −ve mode)</td>
<td>SunFire C18 column (150 mm × 2.1 mm × 3.5 μm)/Mobile phase: methanol and water</td>
<td>Cl₃BPA (100), and Cl₄BPA (80) MLODs (ng ml⁻¹): BPA (0.38), CIBPA (0.23), Cl₂BPA (0.062), Cl₃BPA (0.067), and Cl₄BPA (0.016)</td>
<td>Mean (%): &gt;85% (for all analytes)</td>
<td>Range (ng ml⁻¹): 464–810 (for all chlorinated derivatives of BPA)</td>
<td>Gallart-Ayala et al. (2007)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>BPA and Cl₄BPA</td>
<td>Water Beaker setup</td>
<td>HPLC–UV detector/ Ace 5 C4 reversed phase column (250 mm × 4.6 mm × 5.0 μm)/Detector: HPLC – MS/MS (ESI, −ve mode)</td>
<td>GC-MSD</td>
<td>DB-S fused silica capillary column (30 m × 0.25 mm × 0.25 μm)/Helium (carrier gas)</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>Bastos et al. (2008)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>BPA, CIBPA, Cl₂BPA, Cl₃BPA, and Cl₄BPA</td>
<td>Wastewater (urban) Different points; (n = 6)</td>
<td>SPE (LiChrolut RP-18 cartridge)/diethyl ether: methanol (9:1, v/v)</td>
<td>HPLC–MS/MS (APCI, −ve mode)</td>
<td>Gemini C18 column (150 mm × 4.6 mm × 5.0 μm)/Mobile phase: aqueous acetic acid (1%, v/v) and [B]: acetonitrile</td>
<td>Detection capabilities, DCs (ng L⁻¹): BPA (20), CIBPA (9), Cl₂BPA (12), Cl₃BPA (12), and Cl₄BPA (17)</td>
<td>Quantitative detection limits, QDLs (ng L⁻¹): Cl₂BPA (0.4)</td>
<td>Range (%): BPA (98.0–103.2), CIBPA (96.4–97.8), Cl₂BPA (98.4–103.1), Cl₃BPA (96.8–102.8), and Cl₄BPA (95.6–102.0)</td>
<td>Zafra-Gómez et al. (2008)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>BPA and chlorinated derivatives</td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>SPE (cleaner PEP-SPE)/ dichloromethane: methanol (6:4, v/v)</td>
<td>BPA: HPLC-photodiode array detector Chlorinated derivatives of BPA: GC-MSD</td>
<td>GC-MSD</td>
<td>Chlorinated derivatives of BPA: HP-5MS column (30 m × 0.22 mm × 0.25 μm)/Helium (carrier gas)</td>
<td>Method LOQs Range (ng L⁻¹): BPA (57–115), CIBPA (57–176), Cl₂BPA (60–183), Cl₃BPA (60–180), and Cl₄BPA (57–140)</td>
<td>Range (%): BPA (107), and Cl₂BPA (108)</td>
<td>Liu et al. (2009)</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>BPA, CIBPA, Cl₂BPA, Cl₃BPA, and Cl₄BPA</td>
<td>Water samples Multiple sources: (i) effluent from paper recycling plant, (ii) WWTPs, (iii) river, and (iv) DWTWs (influent and samples at different points)</td>
<td>Online SPE (Ascentis Express C18 column with a fused core)/acetonitrile: ethanol: water</td>
<td>HPLC–MS/MS (ESI, −ve mode)</td>
<td>Hypersil Gold C18 column (20 mm × 2.1 mm × 12 μm, 175 Å)/acetonitrile: methanol: water</td>
<td>LODs (mg L⁻¹): Cl₂BPA (1.0) Mean (%): Cl₂BPA (96.5)</td>
<td>LODs (mg L⁻¹): Cl₃BPA (1.0) Mean (%): Cl₃BPA (96.5)</td>
<td>Range (ng g⁻¹): Cl₄BPA (0.016) LOD-542.6</td>
<td>Gallart-Ayala et al. (2010)</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Cl₂BPA</td>
<td>Sediment River; (n = 3)</td>
<td>LLE (hexane: acetone, 9:1) GC-electron capture detector Cl₂BPA</td>
<td>HP-5 capillary column/nitrogen (carrier gas)</td>
<td>LODs (mg L⁻¹): Cl₂BPA (1.0)</td>
<td>LODs (mg L⁻¹): Cl₂BPA (1.0)</td>
<td>Mean (%): Cl₂BPA (96.5)</td>
<td>Mean (%): Cl₂BPA (96.5)</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>BPA, Cl₂BPA, and Cl₄BPA</td>
<td>Sediment River; (n = 3)</td>
<td>LLE (hexane: acetone, 9:1) GC-electron capture detector Cl₂BPA</td>
<td>HP-5 capillary column/nitrogen (carrier gas)</td>
<td>LODs (mg L⁻¹): Cl₂BPA (1.0)</td>
<td>LODs (mg L⁻¹): Cl₂BPA (1.0)</td>
<td>Mean (%): Cl₂BPA (96.5)</td>
<td>Mean (%): Cl₂BPA (96.5)</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
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<tr>
<td>DB-5</td>
<td>MS capillary column (30 mm × 0.25 mm × 0.25 μm)/electronic impact ionization/Helium (carrier gas)</td>
<td>Gemini-C18 (100 mm × 2.0 mm × 3.0 μm) (with C18 guard column)/mobile phase [A]: ammoniacal aqueous solution (0.025%, v/v) and [B]: ammonia in methanol (0.025%, v/v)</td>
<td>Microwave-assisted extraction:</td>
<td>Microwaves-assisted extraction:</td>
<td>LOQs (ng L⁻¹):</td>
<td>Range (ng L⁻¹):</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>Dorival-Garcia et al. (2012a)</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>BPA, CIBPA, Cl₂BPA, Cl₃BPA, and Cl₄BPA</td>
<td>Sewage sludge</td>
<td>WWTPs; (n = 2)</td>
<td>Ultrasound-assisted extraction or Microwave-assisted extraction or pressurized liquid extraction (ethyl acetate)</td>
<td>HPLC–MS/MS (APCI, −ve mode)</td>
<td>BPA (6), CIBPA (9), Cl₂BPA (7), Cl₃BPA (6), and Cl₄BPA (7)</td>
<td>BPA (101–109), CIBPA (102–110), Cl₂BPA (94–102), Cl₃BPA (97–105)</td>
<td>(continued on next page)</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>BPA, CIBPA, Cl₂BPA, Cl₃BPA, and Cl₄BPA</td>
<td>Sewage sludge</td>
<td>WWTPs; (n = 17)</td>
<td>Pressurized liquid extraction (ethyl acetate)</td>
<td>HPLC–MS/MS (APCI, −ve mode)</td>
<td>BPA (5), CIBPA (4), Cl₂BPA (7), Cl₃BPA (6), and Cl₄BPA (8)</td>
<td>(continued on next page)</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>BPA, CIBPA, 2,6-Cl₂BPA, 2,2'-Cl₂BPA, and Cl₃BPA</td>
<td>(A) Surface water</td>
<td>DWTPs; (n = 8)</td>
<td>SPE (glass C18 upi-clean endcapped cartridge, 200 mg)</td>
<td>HPLC–MS–MS (APCI, −ve mode)</td>
<td>BPA (0.5), CIBPA (0.7), 2,6-Cl₂BPA (0.4), 2,2'-Cl₂BPA (0.3), and Cl₃BPA (2.3)</td>
<td>(continued on next page)</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>BPA, CIBPA, Cl₂BPA, Cl₃BPA, and Cl₄BPA</td>
<td>Tap water</td>
<td>Simulated water pipe system (laboratory setup)</td>
<td>LLE</td>
<td>HPLC–MS/MS</td>
<td>BPA (1.0), Cl₂BPA (1.5), Cl₃BPA (0.7), and Cl₄BPA (0.6)</td>
<td>(continued on next page)</td>
<td>Kosaka et al. (2012)</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>BPA and halogenated derivatives (primarily chlorinated and brominated)</td>
<td>Water from DWTP</td>
<td>Beaker setup</td>
<td>BPA: LLE (dichloromethane); BPA chlorination products: SPE (Merck, 6 mL, 500 mg)</td>
<td>BPA: GC-MSD; BPA chlorination products: HPLC-LTQ-Orbitrap HRMS</td>
<td>BPA: DR-SHT column (15 mm × 0.25 mm × 0.1 μm)/Helium (carrier gas)</td>
<td>BPA: DR-SHT column (15 mm × 0.25 mm × 0.1 μm)/Helium (carrier gas)</td>
<td>(continued on next page)</td>
<td>Bourgin et al. (2013a)</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>BPA, CIBPA, Cl₂BPA, Cl₃BPA, and Cl₄BPA</td>
<td>(A) source water</td>
<td>DWTPs; (n = 62)</td>
<td>SPE (Oasis HLB cartridge)/dansylation (with aqueous sodium bicarbonate (100 mmol L⁻¹, pH 10.5) and dansyl chloride)</td>
<td>UPLC–MS/MS (ESI, −ve mode)</td>
<td>BPA (0.001), Cl₂BPA (0.002), Cl₃BPA (0.001), and Cl₄BPA (0.001)</td>
<td>BPA (101–109), CIBPA (102–110), Cl₂BPA (94–102), Cl₃BPA (97–105)</td>
<td>Fan et al. (2013)</td>
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<td>(B) Drinking water</td>
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<th>Matrix</th>
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<th>Sample extraction/ clean-up/preparation</th>
<th>Instrumental analysis</th>
<th>Analytical column/mobile phase</th>
<th>LOD or MDL or LOQ</th>
<th>Recovery</th>
<th>Concentration</th>
<th>Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>BPA and Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA</td>
<td>Sediment</td>
<td>River</td>
<td>BPA: ultrasonic extraction Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA; LLE (hexane/acetone, 9:1, v/v)</td>
<td>BPA: HPLC-fluorescence detector; Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA: GC-electron capture detector HPLC–MS/MS (ESI, –ve mode)</td>
<td>BPA: Polymeric bound silica column; Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA: HP-5 capillary column</td>
<td>LODs (mg L&lt;sup&gt;–1&lt;/sup&gt;): BPA (0.1) and Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (1.0)</td>
<td>Mean (%): BPA (96.3) and Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (96.5)</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>(2.8–26.7), Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (0.7–6.3), Cl&lt;sub&gt;3&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (1.5–7.7), and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (0.3–4.9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>BPA and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA</td>
<td>Sewage sludge</td>
<td>DWTPs; (n = 52)</td>
<td>SPE (ENVI-Carb cartridge and Sep-Pak C18 cartridge)</td>
<td>Symmetry Shield C18 analytical column (150 mm × 2.1 mm × 5.0 μm)/Mobile phase [A]: methanol with water (1:9, v/v) and [B]: methanol</td>
<td>MQLs (ng g&lt;sup&gt;–1&lt;/sup&gt;): BPA (0.61) and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (1.0)</td>
<td>Range (%): BPA (87–100) and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (75–90)</td>
<td>Range (ng g&lt;sup&gt;–1&lt;/sup&gt;): BPA (&lt;MQL-152&gt; and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (&lt;MQL-143)</td>
<td>Song et al. (2014b)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>BPA and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA</td>
<td>Source water, river water, effluent water and tap water</td>
<td>Multiple locations (n = 7)</td>
<td>Online-SPE (Direct Connect HP XBridge C18 column (30 mm × 2.1 mm × 10 μm))</td>
<td>Acquity Shield RP 18 column (100 mm × 2.1 mm, 1.7 μm)/Mobile phase: methanol/water (20:80, v/v)</td>
<td>Method LODs, MLODs (ng L&lt;sup&gt;–1&lt;/sup&gt;): BPA (3.0–18.0) and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (0.5–2.0)</td>
<td>Range (%): BPA (83.8–103.3) and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (84.0–107.4)</td>
<td>Range (ng L&lt;sup&gt;–1&lt;/sup&gt;): BPA (&lt;MLOD-648&gt; and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (&lt;MLOD</td>
<td>Yang et al. (2014b)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>BPA, CIBPA, Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA, Cl&lt;sub&gt;3&lt;/sub&gt;BPA, and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA</td>
<td>Waste water (point of secondary and tertiary effluent)</td>
<td>WWTPs; (n = 9)</td>
<td>SPE (Oasis HLB cartridges, mL/200 mg)</td>
<td>HPLC–MS/MS (ESI, –ve mode)</td>
<td>Aquasil column (5.0 mm × 2.1 mm, 3.0 μm)/Mobile phase [A]: aqueous ammonium acetate and [B]: methanol</td>
<td>Reporting Limits, RLs (ng L&lt;sup&gt;–1&lt;/sup&gt;): BPA (102–105), CIBPA (94–102), Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (97–101), Cl&lt;sub&gt;3&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (97–109), and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (96–97)</td>
<td>Range (%): All analytes (85–112)</td>
<td>Range (ng g&lt;sup&gt;–1&lt;/sup&gt;): BPA (&lt;LOD-9.3) and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (&lt;LOD</td>
<td>Casatta et al. (2015)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>BPA and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA</td>
<td>(A) Sediment</td>
<td>Sites; (n = 3)</td>
<td>Soxhlet extraction (n-hexane/acetone; 3:1, v/v)/pressurized liquid extraction (acetone/n-hexane, 1:1, v/v)</td>
<td>UPLC–MS/MS</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>Range (ng g&lt;sup&gt;–1&lt;/sup&gt;): BPA (&lt;LOD-4.2) and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (&lt;LOD-1.4)</td>
<td>Lane et al. (2015)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(B) Clams</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Li et al. (2015)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>BPA, CIBPA, Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA, Cl&lt;sub&gt;3&lt;/sub&gt;BPA, and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA</td>
<td>Reagent grade water</td>
<td>Beaker setup</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>HPLC–MS/MS (ESI, –ve mode)</td>
<td>Gemini-NX C18 (150 mm × 3.0 mm × 3.0 μm) (with TMS end capping column)/Mobile phase [A]: methanol/water and [B]: methanol</td>
<td>MDLs (ng mL&lt;sup&gt;–1&lt;/sup&gt;): BPA (0.057), CIBPA (13.6), Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (1.8), Cl&lt;sub&gt;3&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (3.2), and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (5.9)</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>&lt;LOD-4.2) and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (&lt;LOD-1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>BPA, CIBPA, Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA, Cl&lt;sub&gt;3&lt;/sub&gt;BPA, and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA</td>
<td>Municipal drinking water</td>
<td>Water distribution system (pilot scale model) (laboratory setup)</td>
<td>SPE (C18 cartridge)</td>
<td>GC–MS (electron impact ionization)</td>
<td>HP-5 MS capillary column (30 m × 0.25 mm × 0.25 μm)/Helium (carrier gas)</td>
<td>MQLs (ng mL&lt;sup&gt;–1&lt;/sup&gt;): BPA (0.007), CIBPA (0.002), Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (0.005), and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (0.006)</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>BPA, CIBPA, Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA, Cl&lt;sub&gt;3&lt;/sub&gt;BPA, and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA</td>
<td>Food contacting papers</td>
<td>Market basket survey; (n = 74)</td>
<td>LLE (methanol)silica cartridges (hexane : ethyl acetate, 38:62, v/v)/dansylation (dansyl chloride, 4-(dimethylamino)-pyridine, dichloromethane)</td>
<td>UPLC–MS/MS (ESI, +ve mode)</td>
<td>Acquity UPLC BEH C18 (100 mm × 2.1 mm × 1.7 μm)/Mobile phase [A]: acetonitrile and [B]: water with 0.1% formic acid</td>
<td>LOQs (ng g&lt;sup&gt;–1&lt;/sup&gt;): BPA (0.03), CIBPA (0.003), Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (0.002), Cl&lt;sub&gt;3&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (0.005), and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (0.006)</td>
<td>Range (%): BPA (93–108), CIBPA (88–103), Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (87–101), Cl&lt;sub&gt;3&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (88–102), and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (87–101)</td>
<td>G&lt;sub&gt;M&lt;/sub&gt; (ng g&lt;sup&gt;–1&lt;/sup&gt;): BPA (0.80), CIBPA (0.004), Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (0.001), Cl&lt;sub&gt;3&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (0.001), and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA (0.002)</td>
<td>Zhou et al. (2015)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
and obesity (Li et al., 2012; Ning et al., 2011; Shankar et al., 2012; Wang et al., 2012b; Zhao et al., 2012), whereas other human studies did not confirm the positive association (Carwile and Michels, 2011; Duan et al., 2013; Galloway et al., 2010; Kim and Park, 2013; Ko et al., 2014; Lee et al., 2014; Melzer et al., 2012; Mok-Lin et al., 2010; Song et al., 2014a; Yang et al., 2009). Similar human studies on BPA derivatives or analogs are lacking; the exception is a human study (n = 223) reporting on the association between exposures to ClBPA (monochlorinated BPA, mono-CIBPA) and obesity. Relatively weak positive association was observed between creatinine (Cr)-adjusted urinary mono-CIBPA and BMI, such as (i) 76 ng g⁻¹ Cr in participants with above normal BMI (≥25 kg m⁻²) versus 55 ng g⁻¹ Cr in those with below normal BMI (<25 kg m⁻²) (p for mean difference = 0.053) and (ii) higher percentage of participants with above normal BMI in the high urinary mono-CIBPA tertile (63% in tertile 3 and 57% in tertile 2 versus 50% in tertile 1, p for trend = 0.056) (Andra and Makris, 2015). Similar tests of association between urinary BPA and BMI showed null outcome (Andra and Makris, 2015). A dichotomously-classified group analysis showed an increased odds ratio (OR) for higher BMI in the group with high creatinine-adjusted urinary levels of BPA and mono-CIBPA when compared with the participants group with low levels for both compounds [logistic model adjusted for gender and health status as potential confounders; adjusted OR (95% CI): 2.34 (1.06, 4.36), p = 0.027] (Andra and Makris, 2015). Also, higher odds for developing T2DM per unit increase in creatinine-adjusted urinary mono-CIBPA levels [ln (ng g⁻¹)] were observed in a pilot human study [adjusted OR (95% CI): 3.29 (1.10, 11.4), p < 0.05] (Andra et al., 2015). These findings underscored the importance of monitoring both BPA and its ClxBPA derivatives in human matrices being part of a comprehensive exposure assessment towards improving our understanding of their obesogenic and metabolic-disruptive effects. Whether it is useful to bio-monitor trace-level ClxBPA derivatives when the main effect of the exposure to parent compound (BPA) is non-significant (either due to small sample size or due to differential species toxicities) remains an unanswered research question.

2.4. Analytical methods for human matrices

Analyses of chlorinated derivatives of BPA have been performed in a wide range of human matrices, such as urine, blood, placenta, breast milk and adipose tissue, while biomonitoring studies on BPA structural analogs have been conducted only in urine and breast milk. Each of these matrices is complex, requiring specific analytical steps that include pre-treatment, analyte(s) extraction and pre-concentration, separation using chromatographic techniques, and detection using mass spectrometry. We summarized and discussed the bioanalytical protocols of ClBPA and BPA analogs in the following sub-sections (Tables 3 and 5).

2.4.1. Sample pretreatment and extraction

Considering the diverse composition of each human biospecimen matrices, a pretreatment step either to remove interfering matrix components or to facilitate the enzymatic deconjugation of BPA and/or its derivatives or analogs is warranted. Phase II metabolism in humans facilitates the biotransformation of BPA and its derivatives to yield glucuronide and sulfate conjugates that are eventually excreted in urine; such evidence for chlorinated derivatives or structural analogs are lacking so far. In the case of urine samples, sample pre-treatment refers to hydrolysis of conjugated forms (e.g., glucuronidated and sulfonated) to respective unconjugated/free forms of BPA and ClBPA using a β-glucuronidase/sulfatase enzyme (Kalyvas et al., 2014; Liao and Kannan, 2012; Vela-Soria et al., 2014b; Yang et al., 2014a). This procedure provides a total bisphenol concentration comprised of both conjugated and unconjugated forms. Because conjugated forms have been traditionally considered having minimal estrogenic activity, few research groups measured only the unconjugated (free) forms of BPA and ClBPA in urine, occurring at much lower concentrations than the corresponding conjugated forms (Liao and Kannan, 2012; Venisse et al., 2014). Also, the lipophilic nature of ClBPA compounds is responsible for their accumulation in lipid-rich tissues, hence, deconjugation step was not performed for the analysis of adipose tissue (Fernandez et al., 2007), placenta (Jimenez-Diaz et al., 2010; Vela-Soria et al., 2015), and breast milk (Cariot et al., 2012; Migeot et al., 2013; Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014a,b).

During the sample pretreatment step, first interfering endogenous compounds such as salts, lipids and proteins were removed, while BPA, ClBPA and structural BPA analytes were concentrated using sample clean-up procedures such as protein precipitation, liquid–liquid extraction (LLE), and solid-phase extraction (SPE) (Tables 3 and 5). Protein precipitation with an organic modifier and acid mixture was usually performed on breast milk samples (Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014a,b), while salting out with ammonium formate was used for urine analysis (Venisse et al., 2014), followed by centrifugation. LLE is a popular procedure for cleaner extracts and greater extraction sensitivity, and it is performed either alone or in combination with SPE. LLE is typically preceded by an alkalization step and/or enzyme hydrolysis step. LLE for ClBPA extraction from human matrices was performed with a wide range of solvents such as (i) acetonitrile for adipose (Fernandez et al., 2007), (ii) ammoniacal solution (Jimenez-Diaz et al., 2010), and ammonia in methanol and ammoniacal solution mixture (Vela-Soria et al., 2011) for placenta, (iii) methanol (Cariot et al., 2012) and acetone (Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014a,b) for breast milk, (iv) ethyl acetate for serum (Liao and Kannan, 2012), (v) ethyl acetate (Liao and Kannan, 2012), ethyl acetate and hexane mixture, acetone and trichloromethane mixture (Vela-Soria et al., 2014b), acetone and ammonium formate mixture (Venisse et al., 2014), and acetone and ethyl acetate mixture (Yang et al., 2014a) for urine. Typical sample volumes used for LLE were in the range of 0.5–9.9 mL of breast milk (Cariot et al., 2012; Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014a,b). LLE is succeeded by evaporation of the organic extractant and reconstitution in a LC mobile phase or GC solvent. Recoveries were affected by the initial sample volume used in LLE. For example, ClBPA recoveries in breast milk were in the range of 81–119% from a 0.5 mL sample volume (Cariot et al., 2012) compared to 92–110% with 9.9 mL sample (Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014a,b). Similar was the case in urine with recoveries in the range of 37–45% from 0.3 mL (Venisse et al., 2014) versus 98–104% from 5.0 mL urine sample volume (Vela-Soria et al., 2014b).

Stir-bar sorptive extraction (SBSE) was applied for the first time to extract ClBPA along with BPA, parabens and benzophenones from breast milk (Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014b). BSE is based on the principles of solid-phase micro-extraction (SPME), relying on the equilibrium process between the sorbent and sample (Baltussen et al., 1999). Unlike conventional SPME, SBSE showed higher analytes extraction capacity due to sorbent’s larger surface area (David and Sandra, 2007; De Coensel et al., 2009; Kawaguchi et al., 2006; Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014b). Polydimethylsiloxane coated stir bar (20 mm length × 0.5 mm thickness) was used as sorptive extraction phase to preconcentrate ClBPA in breast milk. SBSE parameters were optimized in regards to matrix modifiers, sample volume, ionic strength, extraction time, stirring speed, and desorption time and solvent for obtaining an enhanced sensitivity and performance (precision and trueness). Achieved recoveries were greater than 90% for the four ClBPA analytes. Moreover, this method yielded successful extraction and recovery of 14 analytes from three different chemical classes (Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014b). Further research from the same group obtained similar or better recoveries (~100%) of multi-class analytes from breast milk by using a simple extraction protocol to precipitate proteins and fats with a mixture of zinc acetate, phosphotungstic acid and glacial acetic acid (Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014a).

Dispersive liquid–liquid micro-extraction (DLLME) is gaining attention as a useful alternative to LLE because of its simplicity, cost and time-
efficiency, while enhancing analyte recovery and enrichment factor (Rezaee et al., 2006). DLLME applies the working principle of mixing an extract with high-density solvent and disperser with water miscible polar solvent, which speeds up analyte mass transfer process when rapidly comes in contact with the sample. DLLME has been applied for the extraction of BPA and other environmental phenols in human matrices (Cunha and Fernandes, 2010; Tarazona et al., 2013; Vela-Soria et al., 2013), and also for chlorinated derivatives and structural analogs of BPA in human urine (Vela-Soria et al., 2014b). DLLME procedure appears to require a small sample volume of 5 mL human urine (Vela-Soria et al., 2014b) compared to SBSE that utilized 9.9 mL breast milk (Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014b), but provided comparable recoveries for both BPA and ClxBPA (>90%) (Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014b; Vela-Soria et al., 2014b).

Solid phase extraction (SPE) of BPA and its chlorinated derivatives in human matrices was performed using conventional sorbents, such as, (i) reversed-phase Octadecylsilane (ODS)-C18 for adipose tissue (Fernandez et al., 2007) (ii) C8 sorbent for breast milk (Cariot et al., 2012; Migeot et al., 2013), and (iii) a new approach of combining sorbents, such as NH2 (a weak anion-exchange sorbent) and a mixed-mode MCX (a reversed-phase and strong cation-exchange sorbent) for serum and urine analysis (Liao and Kannan, 2012). On-line SPE (Cariot et al., 2012; Migeot et al., 2013) and manually-packed SPE (Vela-Soria et al., 2015) were also used. Vela-Soria et al. (2015) tested several clean-up sorbents made of C18, silica, florisil, alumina and a poly secondary amine (PSA) by packing each of these manually into polypropylene cartridges. PSA sorbent was selected, because it demonstrated best extraction efficiency and minimal attenuation of relative signal for ClxBPA in human placenta. In general, SPE required significantly smaller volume of solvents compared to LLE, while providing higher analyze selectivity and recovery. For example, extraction and clean-up of placental tissue with SPE required 0.25 g (Vela-Soria et al., 2015) compared to 1.5 g by using LLE (Vela-Soria et al., 2011). Similarly, 0.5 mL urine sample volume was required for SPE (Liao and Kannan, 2012) compared to LLE that required urine in the range of 0.3–5.0 mL (Vela-Soria et al., 2014b; Venisse et al., 2014). Comparable recoveries of ClxBPA were obtained from placenta using SPE (0.25 g, 98–105%) (Vela-Soria et al., 2015) and LLE protocols (1.5 g, 96–102%) (Vela-Soria et al., 2011), respectively; however, this was not the case with urine. For example, SPE yielded recoveries in the range of 78–129% from 0.5 mL urine (Liao and Kannan, 2012) compared to 37–45% from using a 0.3 mL urine with SPE (Venisse et al., 2014). Further information on the reagents, solvents and solutions, and conditions used during the sample pretreatment of human matrices, and extraction and clean-up for ClxBPA analysis were detailed in Table 3. Precision of the human sample extraction and clean-up protocols, represented as percent relative standard deviation, were comparable and acceptable for LLE and SPE (relative standard deviation < 20%) (Table 4).

2.4.2. Analyte separation, detection, and quantification

Separation of ClxBPA and BPA structural analogs in extracts of human matrices has been primarily achieved by either liquid (LC) or gas chromatography (GC) techniques (Tables 3 and 5). Analysis of ClxBPA in human matrices using LC-based methods require larger injection volume (range: 5–50 μL) (Migeot et al., 2013; Yang et al., 2014a) and shorter analysis time per sample (range: 7–20 min.) (Jiménez-Díaz et al., 2010; Liao and Kannan, 2012; Vela-Soria et al., 2011), compared to the reported GC protocols (range: 1–20 μL, 14–26 min.) (Kalivas et al., 2014; Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014b). Use of a C18-reversed phase column was reported in all studies that employed LC: (i) Gemini C18 (Jiménez-Díaz et al., 2010; Vela-Soria et al., 2011) and Acquity BEH C18 (Vela-Soria et al., 2015) for placenta, (ii) Acquity CSH C18 (Cariot et al., 2012; Migeot et al., 2013) and Acquity BEH C18 (Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014a,b) for breast milk, (iii) Betasil C18 for serum (Liao and Kannan, 2012), and (iv) Betasil C18 (Liao and Kannan, 2012) and Acquity BEH C18 (Vela-Soria et al., 2014b; Yang et al., 2014a) for urine. A commonly used mobile phase in these studies was methanol with solvent modifiers such as ammonia (Jimenez-Diaz et al., 2010; Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014a,b; Vela-Soria et al., 2011), ammonium acetate (Liao and Kannan, 2012) and ammonium formate (Vela-Soria et al., 2015; Vela-Soria et al., 2014b) as proton acceptors. Individual study details on the LC conditions including (i) LC column characteristics, (ii) binary solvent composition and pH, (iii) mobile phase gradient, flow duration and rate, and (iv) column temperature are presented in Table 3 (BPA derivatives) and Table 5 (BPA structural analogs).

GC-based separation of ClxBPA, structural BPA analogs and BPA was achieved following derivatization step of native non-volatile analytes to GC-amenable volatile derivatives. This procedure was followed for the analysis of adipose (Fernandez et al., 2007), urine (Kalivas et al., 2014), and breast milk (Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014b). The GC conditions including (i) derivatization reagents and steps, (ii) GC column characteristics, (iii) injector mode and temperature, (iv) carrier gas and flow rate, (v) injector temperature ramp program, and (vi) oven temperature, gradient and duration are available in Tables 3 and 5.

Mass spectrometry has been the preferred detection technique for ClxBPA extracted from human matrices (Tables 3 and 4). Quantification with highly sensitive tandem mass spectrometry methods (MS/MS) are widely preferred (12 out of 14 studies), except for two studies that utilized a less sensitive single quadrupole mass spectrometer (mass selective detector/MSD) (del Olmo et al., 2005; Fernandez et al., 2007). The applied methods were (i) LC–MS/MS for placenta (Jimenez-Diaz et al., 2010; Vela-Soria et al., 2011; Vela-Soria et al., 2015), breast milk (Cariot et al., 2012; Migeot et al., 2013; Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014a,b), serum (Liao and Kannan, 2012), urine (Liao and Kannan, 2012; Vela-Soria et al., 2014b; Venisse et al., 2014; Yang et al., 2014a) (ii) GC–MS/MS for urine (Kalivas et al., 2014) and breast milk (Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014b), and (iii) GC-MSD for adipose tissue (Fernandez et al., 2007). The preferred ionization mode for the LC–MS/MS analysis was electrospray ionization (Cariot et al., 2012; Liao and Kannan, 2012; Migeot et al., 2013; Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014b; Vela-Soria et al., 2014b; Vela-Soria et al., 2015; Venisse et al., 2014; Yang et al., 2014a) followed by atmospheric pressure chemical ionization (APCI) (Jimenez-Diaz et al., 2010; Vela-Soria et al., 2011), and the mass spectrometer polarity in either ionization was a negative ion mode. APCI mode was reported to give better sensitivity and lower detection limits compared to the ESI mode for ClxBPA in placental tissue (Vela-Soria et al., 2011). This is probably because APCI mode is less prone to matrix effects compared to the ESI mode. Electron impact was the most commonly used ionization method for GC-based mass spectrometry methods (Fernandez et al., 2007a; Kalivas et al., 2014; Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014b). Individual ClxBPA study details on the LC-based mass spectrometry conditions such as (i) ion source, (ii) desolvation temperature, (iii) cone, desolvation, collision, nebulizer, and ion source gas, (iv) capillary, cone, and extractor potential, and (v) dwell time were presented in Table 3. Similar details on the GC-based mass spectrometry conditions from relevant studies such as (i) ion source, (ii) carrier, quenching, and collision gas, and (iii) ion source, transfer line, interface, and first and second quadruple temperatures were also presented in Tables 3 and 5. Information on the precursor and product ion transitions (m/z), cone voltage (V), and collision energy (eV) from each of the relevant ClxBPA studies was presented in Table S1–1 (Supplementary information).

The extraction and clean up protocols for structural analogs of BPA were similar to those of chlorinated BPA derivatives (Table 5). LLE was the widely practiced extraction method (Asimakopoulos et al., 2014; Cunha and Fernandes, 2010; Vela-Soria et al., 2014a,b; Xue et al., 2015; Yang et al., 2014a), followed by SPE (Deceuninck et al., 2015; Liao et al., 2012a; Zhou et al., 2014). Advantages of LLE were acceptable recoveries (>80%) and cost-effective, while the main disadvantage was a need for larger sample volume ranging between 0.5 mL (Asimakopoulos et al., 2014; Xue et al., 2015) and 5.0 mL (Cunha and Fernandes, 2010; Vela-Soria et al., 2014a,b). An online SPE protocol
Table 3
Analytical method parameters and instrumental variables for measuring chlorinated derivatives of bisphenol A in human tissue and matrices.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>Biomarker of exposure to BPA and its chlorinated derivatives</th>
<th>Bio-matrix</th>
<th>Sample volume or mass</th>
<th>Enzymatic deconjugation (Yes/No)</th>
<th>Extraction and clean-up method</th>
<th>LC or GC separation Column</th>
<th>LC or GC conditions</th>
<th>MS system</th>
<th>MS condition</th>
<th>Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>CIBPA&lt;sub&gt;g-free&lt;/sub&gt;, Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA, Cl&lt;sub&gt;3&lt;/sub&gt;BPA, and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA</td>
<td>Plasma</td>
<td>(ii) 5 mL</td>
<td>(iii) Yes</td>
<td>(i) GC–MS</td>
<td>(ii) 2 μL</td>
<td>(iii) n.a.</td>
<td>SPME: (a) Polycarlylate-coated fiber, (b) SPME fiber immersed in NaCl solution for 40 min and 40 °C, and (c) thermal desorption at 300 °C</td>
<td>HP1 fused silica capillary column (30 m × 0.25 mm i.d.; 0.25 μm film thickness)</td>
<td>Mode: Splitless Injector temp: 300 °C Oven temp program: 5 min at 50 °C, 30 °C/min to 300 °C, and 7 min at 300 °C. Run time: ~20.3 min.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>BPA&lt;sub&gt;f-free&lt;/sub&gt;, CIBPA, Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA, Cl&lt;sub&gt;3&lt;/sub&gt;BPA, and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA</td>
<td>Adipose tissue</td>
<td>(ii) 200 mg</td>
<td>(iii) No</td>
<td>(i) GC–MS</td>
<td>(ii) 2 μL</td>
<td>(iii) del Olmo et al. (2005)</td>
<td>SPE: AccuBondII ODS-C18 (silica-based) Conditioners: diethyl ether, methanol, and deionized water Eluent: Mixture of diethyl ether and methanol (9:1 v/v) Derivatization: Evaporation and esterification with ethyl acetate, and BSTFA (N,O-bis(trimethylsilyl) trifluoroacetamide) and TMCS (trimethylchlorosilane).</td>
<td>ZB-5 MS Zerbin column (30 m × 0.25 mm i.d.; 0.25 μm film thickness)</td>
<td>Mode: splitless Carrier gas: helium, 1.0 mL/min Injector temp: 250 °C Oven temp program: 2 min at 120 °C, 30 °C/min to 230 °C, 2 min at 230 °C, 40 °C/min to 270 °C, and held for 6 min. Run time: ~14.7 min.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>BPA&lt;sub&gt;f-free&lt;/sub&gt;, CIBPA, Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA, Cl&lt;sub&gt;3&lt;/sub&gt;BPA, and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA</td>
<td>Placenta issue</td>
<td>(ii) 1.5 g</td>
<td>(iii) No</td>
<td>(i) LC–MS/MS</td>
<td>(ii) 40 μL</td>
<td>(iii) n.a.</td>
<td>LLE: (i) Addition of 0.1% v/v ammonical aqueous solution (ii) Extraction in water and with ultrasound (iii) Organic layer collection and evaporation (nitrogen) (iv) Reconstitution in 0.1% v/v ammonia in methanol containing internal standard (BPA-d&lt;sub&gt;α&lt;/sub&gt;)</td>
<td>Gemini C18 column (100 mm × 2 mm i.d.; 3 μm particle size)</td>
<td>Mobile phase: Solvent A: 0.1% v/v ammonical aqueous solution Solvent B: 0.1% v/v ammonia in methanol Gradient: 0.0–3.5 min, 60–100% B: 3.5–4.0 min, 60–100% B: 4.0–6.5 min, 100% B: 7.0–10.5 min, 60% B. Flow rate: 0.25 mL min&lt;sup&gt;−1&lt;/sup&gt; Column temperature: 40 °C Run time: 7.0 min.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>BPA&lt;sub&gt;f-free&lt;/sub&gt;, CIBPA, Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA, Cl&lt;sub&gt;3&lt;/sub&gt;BPA, and Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA</td>
<td>Placenta issue</td>
<td>(ii) 1.5 g</td>
<td>(iii) Jimenez-Diaz</td>
<td>(i) Homogenization in water&lt;sup&gt;∗&lt;/sup&gt; and with ultrasonication</td>
<td>LLE: (i) Reconstitution in 0.1% v/v ammonia in methanol containing internal standard (BPA-d&lt;sub&gt;α&lt;/sub&gt;)</td>
<td>*Gemini C18 column (100 mm × 2 mm i.d.; 3 μm particle size)</td>
<td>Mobile phase: Solvent A: 0.1% v/v ammonical aqueous solution Solvent B: 0.1% v/v ammonia in methanol Gradient: 0.0–3.5 min, 60–100% B: 3.5–4.0 min, 60–100% B: 4.0–6.5 min, 100% B: 7.0–10.5 min, 60% B. Flow rate: 0.25 mL min&lt;sup&gt;−1&lt;/sup&gt; Column temperature: 40 °C Run time: 7.0 min.</td>
<td>Triple quad, APPI, negative ion mode</td>
<td>Ion source temp: 350 °C Ion spray voltage: −3kV Curtain gas: Nitrogen, 30 psi Ion source gas 1: Nitrogen, 50 psi Ion source gas 2: Nitrogen, 30 psi Collision gas: helium, 10 psi Dwell time: 200 ms</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>∗</sup>Vela-Soria et al. (2011)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 3 (continued)</th>
<th>Bioanalytical method</th>
<th>Sample pretreatment</th>
<th>LC or GC separation Column</th>
<th>LC or GC conditions</th>
<th>MS system</th>
<th>MS condition</th>
<th>Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(i) LC-MS/MS</td>
<td>(i) Addition of internal standards (ii) Homogenization by shaking (iii) BPA-d5 used as an internal standard</td>
<td>LLE plus SPE 1. LLE: (i) Addition of methanol (ii) Vortex, sonication, and centrifugation (iii) Supernatant collection, evaporation, and reconstitution in water/methanol mixture (70%/30%/v/v) 2. SPE: Online SPE setup, Xbridge CB column (30 mm × 2.1 mm i.d.) Eluent: Methanol and water (80%/20%/v/v) 1. Urine SPE: (i) Oasis HLB (60 mg/3 cc) (ii) Eluate was evaporated to 0.5 mL under nitrogen stream Conditioners: methanol and water in series Wash: mixture of 0.1 N HCl and 10% methanol in water Eluent: methanol 2. Serum SPE: (i) Strata NH2 in continuation with a second cartridge of Oasis MCX (60 mg/3 cc) (ii) Eluate was evaporated to 0.5 mL under nitrogen</td>
<td>BPA-d column (100 mm × 2.1 mm i.d.; 1.7 µm particle size) Acuity CSH C18 column (100 mm × 2.1 mm i.d.; 1.7 µm particle size)</td>
<td>*Best results obtained with Gemini C18 column compared to (i) an Acquity UPLC column (100 mm × 2.1 mm i.d.; 1.7 µm particle size), (ii) Chromolith SpeedROD RP-18e (50 mm × 4.6 mm i.d.; 2 µm particle size), and (iii) Zorbax Eclipse XDB-C8 (100 mm × 2.0 mm i.d.; 1.8 µm particle size)</td>
<td>*Best results obtained with the APCI negative mode compared to ESI in both modes</td>
<td>Ion spray voltage: — 4.5 kV Collision gas: Nitrogen, 10–11 psi Ion source gas 1: 70 psi Ion source gas 2: 65 psi Collision gas: Nitrogen, 10–11 psi</td>
<td>Cariot et al. (2012)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Conditioners: Methanol and water in series

**Wash:**  
(i) Each cartridge washed with a mixture of 0.1 N HCl and 25% methanol in water  
(ii) Strata NH2 is further washed with methanol  
Eluent:  
(i) Oasis MCX cartridge was eluted with methanol to collect fraction with BPA and BPA chlorides  
(ii) Strata NH2 Flow rate: Initial: Methanol and water (50%/50% v/v); Linear increase: 90% methanol; Final: 99% methanol  

**Solvent mixtures:**  
- **A:** methanol and water (50%/50% v/v)  
- **B:** methanol

**Gradient:**  
- Flow rate: 0.40 mL min
- Nitrogen 99.999%  
- Helium 99.999%  
- Collision gas: Argon 99.999%  
- Nebulizer gas: 7.0 bar  

### SPE

- **Acquity CSH C18**  
- **Ion source temp:** 250 °C  
- **Quadrupole 1 and 2:** 150 °C  
- **Capillary voltage:** 0.6 kV  
- **Nebulizer gas:** Nitrogen (99.999%), 150 Lh

### ESI

- **Negative ion mode**

### Multi reaction monitoring (MRM)

### Mobile phase

- **Column:** Acquity CSH C18 column (30 mm × 2.1 mm i.d.; 10 μm particle size)  
- **Gradient:**  
  - Flow rate: 0.30 mL min
  - Column temperature: 40 °C  
  - Run time: 14.0 min.

### Derivatization

- **Acquity BEH C18 column (100 mm × 2.1 mm i.d.; 1.7 μm particle size)**  
- **Column:** Restek Rxi-5 ms [5% (f–f free), ClBPA, 2,6-Cl2BPA, 2,2-Cl2BPA, and Cl3BPA](ii) Incubation with methanol(iii) Vortex, sonicate, and centrifugation(iv) Supernatant collection and evaporation (vacuum)(v) Residue reconstitution in 40% mobile phase B (ammonia in methanol, 0.1% (v/v))  
- **Capillary temp:** 40° C  
- **Desolvation gas:** Nitrogen (99.999%), 500 Lh

### LLE

- **Precipitation solution:** Mixture of zinc acetate, phosphor-tungstic acid, and glacial acetic acid.  
- **Precipitation:** Enzymatic hydrolysis with β-glucuronidase

### Evaporation

- **Reconstitution in 40% mobile phase B (ammonia in methanol, 0.1% (v/v))**  
- **Column temperature:** 40 °C  
- **Run time:** 14.0 min.

### (continued on next page)
Table 3 (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>Biomarker of exposure to BPA and its chlorinated derivatives</th>
<th>Sample pretreatment</th>
<th>Extraction and clean-up method</th>
<th>LC or GC separation Column</th>
<th>LC or GC conditions</th>
<th>MS system</th>
<th>MS condition</th>
<th>Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>BPA&lt;sub&gt;f&lt;/sub&gt;, Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA, Cl&lt;sub&gt;3&lt;/sub&gt;BPA, Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA</td>
<td>(i) Spike of acetonitrile solution with surrogate standard (BPA-d&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;) (ii) Vortex for a minute</td>
<td>LLE and Stir-bar sorptive extraction (SBSE): (i) Addition of acetonitrile and a fat/proteins precipitation solution (1:1) (ii) Vortex and centrifugation (iii) Underlying lipid layer collection and evaporation (vacuum) (iv) Residue reconstitution in water and vortex (v) Transfer extract to sodium chloride solution (vi) Add polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS) twister bar (20 min (i), 0.5 mm (dia)) (vii) Stir for 24 h at 600 rpm (viii) Collect PDMS twister, wash to remove remaining salts (ix) Desorption of analytes in acetonitrile, solvent evaporation (nitrogen) (x) Reconstitution with ethyl acetate and trichloroacetic acid (trifluoro-acetamide with trimethyl chlorosilane) (BHTFA/15 TMCS) (60-40%; v/v) (xi) Heat at 60 °C for 20 min. (xii) Dissolve the extract in 30% of mobile phase (ammonium in methanol, 0.1% (v/v))</td>
<td>[A] LC method: Acquity UPLC BEH C18 column (100 mm × 2.1 mm i.d.; 1.7 μm particle size)</td>
<td>[A] LC method: Mobile phase: Aqueous ammonium formate (0.1% v/v) Solvent B: Ammonia in methanol (0.1% v/v) Gradient: 0.0–2.0 min, 30% B, 2.0–5.0 min, 30–90% B, 5.0–5.1 min, 90–100% B; 5.1–7.0 min, 100% B, 7.0–7.1 min, 30% B, 7.1–10.0 min, 30% B Flow rate: 0.25 mL min&lt;sup&gt;−1&lt;/sup&gt; Column temperature: 40 °C Run time: 10.0 min.</td>
<td>[B] GC method: Carrier gas: Helium, 20 psi Injector temp: 250 °C Oven temp program: 2 min at 70 °C, 25 °C/min to 120 °C, 10 °C/min to 260 °C, 2 min at 260 °C, 20 °C/min to 280 °C, and held for 5 min. Injector temp ramp: 12 °C/second to 325 °C to transfer the analytes to GC column Run time: 26.0 min.</td>
<td>[A] LC method: Triple quad, ESI, negative ion mode</td>
<td>[A] LC method: Ions source temp: 150 °C Capillary voltage: 0.6 kV Desolvation temp: 500 °C Cone gas: Nitrogen (99.999%), 150 Lh&lt;sup&gt;−1&lt;/sup&gt; Collision gas: Nitrogen (99.999%), 500 Lh&lt;sup&gt;−1&lt;/sup&gt; Dwell time: 20 ms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>BPA&lt;sub&gt;f&lt;/sub&gt;, Cl&lt;sub&gt;2&lt;/sub&gt;BPA, Cl&lt;sub&gt;3&lt;/sub&gt;BPA, Cl&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;BPA</td>
<td>(i) Urine (ii) 5.0 mL (iii) Both, yes and no*</td>
<td>(i) Spike of surrogate standard (BPA-d&lt;sub&gt;4&lt;/sub&gt;) (ii) Two sets of incubation: (iiA) with no enzyme hydrolysis (to determine free forms) (iiB) with enzyme hydrolysis (for total forms): Addition of β-glucuronidase/ sulfatase, and (b) a mixture with 4-methylumbelliferyl glucuronide, 4-methylumbelliferyl</td>
<td>LLE and Stir-bar sorptive extraction (SBSE): (i) Addition of acetonitrile and a fat/proteins precipitation solution (1:1) (ii) Vortex and centrifugation (iii) Underlying lipid layer collection and evaporation (vacuum) (iv) Residue reconstitution in water and vortex (v) Transfer extract to sodium chloride solution (vi) Add polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS) twister bar (20 min (i), 0.5 mm (dia)) (vii) Stir for 24 h at 600 rpm (viii) Collect PDMS twister, wash to remove remaining salts (ix) Desorption of analytes in acetonitrile, solvent evaporation (nitrogen) (x) Reconstitution with ethyl acetate and trichloroacetic acid (trifluoro-acetamide with trimethyl chlorosilane) (BHTFA/15 TMCS) (60-40%; v/v) (xi) Heat at 60 °C for 20 min. (xii) Dissolve the extract in 30% of mobile phase (ammonium in methanol, 0.1% (v/v))</td>
<td>Dispersive liquid–liquid micro-extraction (DLLME): (i) Addition of 10% (w/v) sodium chloride solution (ii) pH adjustment to 2.0 with 0.1 M HCl (iii) A mix of acetone (dispenser solvent) and trichloromethane (extraction solvent) is rapidly injected into the Acquity UPLC BEH C18 column (50 mm × 2.1 mm i.d.; 1.7 μm particle size)</td>
<td>Mobile phase: Solvent A: Aqueous ammonium formate (0.1% v/v) Solvent B: Ammonia in methanol (0.1% v/v) Gradient: 0.0–3.5 min, 60% B; 3.5–4.0 min, 60–100% B; 4.0–6.5 min, 100% B; 6.5–6.6 min, 60% B; 6.6–10.0 min, 60% B Flow rate: 0.25 mL min&lt;sup&gt;−1&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Triple quad, ESI, negative ion mode</td>
<td>Ions source temp: 150 °C</td>
</tr>
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</table>
(unconjugated).

sulfate, and

\(^{13}C_4\)-4-methylumbelliferone to assess success rate of deconjugation step

(ii) Incubation at 37 °C for 24 h

aqueous sample with a syringe

(iii) Vortex gently and centrifugation

(iv) Collection of sedimented phase and evaporation

(v) Reconstitution with a mixture of methanol and water (0.1% ammonia) (60%/40%/v/v and vortex

0.25 mL min\(^{-1}\)

Column temperature: 40 °C

Run time: 10.0 min.

Collision gas: Argon (99.999%), 0.15 mL min\(^{-1}\)

Nebulizer gas: 7.0 bar

Dwell time: 25 ms

\begin{itemize}
  \item 12 BPA\(_{f-\text{con}BPA}, \text{CIBPA, 2,6-Cl}_2\text{BPA, 2,2-Cl}_2\text{BPA, ClBPA, and Cl}_4\text{BPA}
  \item 13 BPA\(_{f-\text{con}}, \text{and Cl}_2\text{BPA}
  \item 14 BPA\(_{f-\text{con}}, \text{CIBPA, ClBPA, Cl}_2\text{BPA, and Cl}_4\text{BPA}
\end{itemize}

\begin{itemize}
  \item (i) Urine (ii) 0.3 mL (iii) No
  \item (i) LC–MS/MS (ii) 30 μL (iii) n.a.
\end{itemize}

(i) Addition of internal standard (BPA\(_{f-\text{d4}}\)) and homogenization

(ii) Vortex and centrifugation

(v) Reconstitution with a mixture of methanol and water (0.1% ammonia) (60%/40%/v/v and vortex

Acquity UPLC CSH C18 column (100 mm x 2.1 mm i.d.; 1.7 μm particle size)

Mobile phase: Solvent A: Deionized water (100% A)
Solvent B: Methanol (100% B)
Gradient: 0.0–0.5 min, 30% B; 0.5–7.0 min, 90% B; 7.0–13.5 min, 99% B; 10.5–13.0 min, 100% B
Flow rate: 0.35 mL min\(^{-1}\)

Column temperature: 40 °C
Run time: 15.5 min.

Capillary potential: 1.5 kV
Desolvation temp: 550 °C
Cone gas: Nitrogen, 150 Lh\(^{-1}\)
Desolvation gas: Nitrogen, 800 Lh\(^{-1}\)
Collision gas: Argon (99.999%), 0.15 mL min\(^{-1}\)

\begin{itemize}
  \item (i) LC–MS/MS (ii) 5 μL (iii) n.a.
\end{itemize}

(i) Addition of internal standard (BPA\(_{f-\text{d4}}\))

(ii) Enzymatic hydrolysis (β-glucuronidase/sulfatase)

(iii) Addition of 0.2 M sodium acetate buffer (pH 5.4) and vortex

(iv) Centrifugation, supernatant collection, evaporation and reconstitution with water

Acquity BEH C18 column (100 mm x 2.1 mm i.d.; 1.7 μm particle size)

Mobile phase: Solvent A: Methanol (50%/50%, v/v) (LC/MS grade)
Solvent B: Water (LC/MS grade)
Gradient: 0.0–1.0 min, 100% A; 1.0–6.0 min, 40–80% A; 6.1–8.0 min, 100% A
Flow rate: 0.10 mL min\(^{-1}\)

Run time: 8.0 min.

Capillary potential: 2.9 kV
Desolvation temp: 400 °C
Cone gas: Nitrogen (99%), 150 Lh\(^{-1}\)
Desolvation gas: Nitrogen (99%), 1500 Lh\(^{-1}\)
Collision gas: Argon (99.999%), 0.15 mL min\(^{-1}\)

\begin{itemize}
  \item (i) LC–MS/MS (ii) 0.25 g (iii) No
\end{itemize}

(i) Sample homogenization with silica in mortar

Manually packed SPE: Load the sample mixture onto primary secondary amine (PSA) sorbent filled polypropylene cartridge

(ii) Extraction with methanol

(iii) Extract evaporation (nitrogen) and residue reconstitution with a mixture containing 60:40 (v/v) of methanol and water containing ammonia (0.1% v/v)

(iv) Addition of surrogate standard (BPA\(_{f-\text{d4}}\))

(v) Vortex and centrifugation

Acquity BEH C18 column (50 mm x 2.1 mm i.d.; 1.7 μm particle size)

Mobile phase: Solvent A: Aqueous ammonia formate (0.1% v/v) (BPA\(_{f-\text{d4}}\))
Solvent B: ammonia in methanol (0.1% v/v) (BPA\(_{f-\text{d4}}\))
Gradient: 0.0–3.5 min, 60% B; 3.5–4.0 min, 60-100% B; 4.0–6.5 min, 100% B; 6.5–6.6 min, 60% B; 6.6–10.0 min, 60% B
Flow rate: 0.25 mL min\(^{-1}\)

Column temperature: 40 °C
Run time: 10.0 min.

Capillary voltage: 0.6 kV
Desolvation temp: 500 °C
Cone gas: Nitrogen (99.999%), 150 Lh\(^{-1}\)
Desolvation gas: Nitrogen (99.999%), 500 Lh\(^{-1}\)
Collision gas: Argon (99.999%), 0.15 mL min\(^{-1}\)

Nebulizer gas: 7.0 bar
Dwell time: 25 ms

Venisse et al. (2014)

Yang et al. (2014a,b)

Vela-Soria et al. (2015)
requires low sample volume such as 0.1 mL for urine (Zhou et al., 2014). In general dispersive LLE showed a distinct advantage in the percent recoveries of structural BPA analogs (~95%) (Vela-Soria et al., 2014a,b) that are on par with SPE (Deceuninck et al., 2015; Liao et al., 2012a; Zhou et al., 2014) in biological matrices, with an exception of ~65% recovery for BPB in urine (Cunha and Fernandes, 2010). Nevertheless, the percent relative standard deviations of the accuracy and precision measurements were acceptable in all the reported studies (Table 5). Most suitable separation techniques for BPA analogs were based on LC compared to GC instrumentation. LC-based methods used larger injection volume (2–350 μL) and shorter analysis time per sample (8–30 min.), compared to the reported GC protocols (1–2 μL, 10–26 min.) (Table 5). Electron impact ionization in association with selected ion monitoring was the commonly used GC–MS method (Cunha and Fernandes, 2010; Vela-Soria et al., 2014a), while electrospray ionization in negative ion mode and in association with multiple reaction monitoring was the most widely used LC–MS method for analyzing BPA analogs in biological matrices (Liao et al., 2012a; Yang et al., 2014a). While mass spectrometry is a widely preferred detector for the quantification of BPA analogs (Table 5), a diode array detector coupled with HPLC was recently used for eight bisphenols’ extract from milk and urine by a dummy molecularly imprinted solid phase extraction (DMISPE) method using 1,1,1-tris(4-hydroxyphenyl)ethane as the sorbent (Sun et al., 2014).

Limits of detection (LODs) obtained for ClBPA in human matrices using GC–MS based methods were in the range from 0.032 ng mL\(^{-1}\) for CIBPA in urine (Kalyvas et al., 2014) to 3.0 ng mL\(^{-1}\) (decision limit) for ClBPA in plasma (del Olmo et al., 2005). LC–MS based methods for ClBPA had LODs in the range from 0.009 ng mL\(^{-1}\) for 2,6-ClBPA in urine (Venisse et al., 2014) to 0.3 ng mL\(^{-1}\) for ClBPA in breast milk (Rodríguez-Gómez et al., 2014b). Similarly, the limits of quantification (LOQs) for ClBPA in human samples obtained with GC–MS based methods ranged from 0.108 ng mL\(^{-1}\) for CIBPA in urine (Kalyvas et al., 2014) to 5.0 ng mL\(^{-1}\) (decision limit) for ClBPA in plasma (del Olmo et al., 2005) and breast milk (Rodríguez-Gómez et al., 2014b). LC–MS based methods for ClBPA had LOQs in the range from 0.05 ng mL\(^{-1}\) for all ClBPA in urine and serum (Liao and Kannan, 2012) to 4.0 ng mL\(^{-1}\) for all ClBPA in colostrum (Migeot et al., 2013) and breast milk (Cariot et al., 2012). Most sensitive LOD and LOQ for CIBPA was achieved because of a 20 μL large-volume injection of extract in a solvent-vent mode using programmed temperature vaporization inlet on the GC–MS/MS (Kalyvas et al., 2014). This required special injection inlet and cleaner sample extracts to avoid contamination. Tandem mass spectrometry (MS/MS) offered better analytical sensitivity because of multiple reactions monitoring capability, compared to the single quadrupole’s (MS) selected reaction monitoring. Overall, it was unclear how the LODs and LOQs were determined in certain studies.

Similarly, the linear range of the analytical method was not mentioned by all studies.

### 2.4.3. Comparison with analysis of environmental samples

LLE and SPE are of equal choice for the extraction and clean-up of environmental samples for ClBPA analysis (Table 2). Dichloromethane was the popular choice of extractant for LLE (Bourgin et al., 2013a; Fukazawa et al., 2001; Fukazawa et al., 2002; Yamamoto and Yasuhara, 2002; Zafra et al., 2003). A suite of SPE material was used for the clean-up of environmental samples with the most popular material being made of C18 (Dupuis et al., 2012; Gallart-Ayala et al., 2007; Gallart-Ayala et al., 2010; Li et al., 2015; Song et al., 2014b; Zafra-Gómez et al., 2008). SPE-based sample preparation yielded higher pre-concentration of ClBPA in water samples and lower LODs in the range of 1–2 ng L\(^{-1}\) (Fan et al., 2013) compared to 0.6–12.9 ng L\(^{-1}\) obtained with LLE (Zafra et al., 2003). Online SPE, an effective sample preparation method, was used only in couple of studies (Gallart-Ayala et al., 2010; Yang et al., 2014b). Analyte recoveries in all the reported studies were above 80% and satisfactory (Table 2). LC-based methods were widely used in comparison to the GC for analyzing ClBPA in environmental media. Individual study details on the (i) LC conditions including LC column characteristics and mobile phases, and (ii) GC conditions such as column details are available in Table 2. As it was apparent from Tables 2 and 3; the analytical methods used for ClBPA in environmental media and human matrices shared several similarities. SPE coupled with LC–MS/MS with ESI negative mode appeared to be the popular choice of analytical methodology, obtaining better sensitivities and lower LODs and LOQs. Moving forward, there is a quintessential need for developing multi-analyte methodology for simultaneous detection of chlorinated and other halogenated derivatives of BPA and as well as structural analogs of BPA using a single method for environmental samples.

### 2.5. Human biomonitoring

The first human biomonitoring report of ClBPA concentrations in adipose tissue was published in 2005 (del Olmo et al., 2005) while the first study for structural BPA analogs measured them in urine and it was published in 2010 (Cunha and Fernandes, 2010). Since then, 13 and 8 peer-reviewed studies have been published reporting internal exposure measurements of ClBPA and BPA analogs in various biospecimen, such as, in adipose, serum, placenta, breast milk, and urine. BPA analogs were reported in worldwide populations, for example, China (Yang et al., 2014a), India (Xue et al., 2015), Spain (Vela-Soria et al., 2014b), United States of America (Zhou et al., 2014), and a multinational study (Liao et al., 2012a). In Tables 4 and 5, we summarized these studies, providing key details of study population groups, analyzed bio-matrix, analytical method and features, detection rates and concentrations in human matrices.

Limits of detection (LOD) varied widely, which was primarily determined by the nature of human matrix, choice of sample preparation, and the chromatographic and mass spectrometry conditions used in the respective ClBPA biomonitoring studies (Table 4). Most sensitive LODs reported for each matrix were in the range of (i) 0.5 ng mL\(^{-1}\) (ClBPA and Cl2BPA)–3.0 ng mL\(^{-1}\) (ClBPA) in adipose tissue (Fernandez et al., 2007), (ii) 0.05 ng g\(^{-1}\) (ClBPA and Cl2BPA)–0.6 ng g\(^{-1}\) (ClBPA) in placenta (Jimenez-Diaz et al., 2010; Vela-Soria et al., 2011), (iii) 0.01 ng mL\(^{-1}\) (Cl2BPA)–0.05 ng mL\(^{-1}\) (ClBPA) in breast milk (Cariot et al., 2012; Migeot et al., 2013), and (iv) 0.009 ng mL\(^{-1}\) (2,6-ClBPA)–0.023 ng mL\(^{-1}\) (2,2-ClBPA) in urine (Venisse et al., 2014). ClBPA was frequently detected when compared with the rest of chlorinated derivatives, while detection rates in the study samples were: 80% in adipose tissue (Fernandez et al., 2007), 51% in placenta (Jimenez-Diaz et al., 2010), 100% in breast milk (Cariot et al., 2012; Migeot et al., 2013), 0% in serum (Liao and Kannan, 2012), and 40% in urine (Venisse et al., 2014). In comparison, detection of BPA in the study samples was 55% in adipose (Fernandez et al., 2007), 50% in placenta (Vela-Soria et al., 2015), 100% in breast milk (Cariot et al., 2012), 100% in serum (Liao and Kannan, 2012), and 100% in urine (Kalyvas et al., 2014; Liao and Kannan, 2012; Venisse et al., 2014). These findings in conjunction with the greater lipophilic nature of a ClBPA compared to BPA indicated their accumulation and higher detection rates in lipid-rich tissues (Migeot et al., 2013). Limits of quantification for BPA and ClBPA, detection frequency, percent matrix spike recovery and relative standard deviation of the analyses, where available, were presented in Table 4. Limits of detection (LODs) obtained for structural analogs of BPA in human matrices using GC–MS based methods were in the range from 0.05 ng mL\(^{-1}\) for BBP in urine (Cunha and Fernandes, 2010) to 0.1 ng mL\(^{-1}\) for BPS in urine (Vela-Soria et al., 2014a) (Table 5). LC–MS based methods for BPA structural analogs had LODs in the range from 0.008 ng mL\(^{-1}\) for BPAP in urine (Yang et al., 2014a) to 0.1 ng mL\(^{-1}\) for BPS in urine (Vela-Soria et al., 2014b) (Table 5).

In the studied populations, ClBPA was measured in almost all human matrices. For example, reported concentrations of ClBPA above limits of detection were (i) 2.6–21.5 ng g\(^{-1}\) (5th–95th percentiles) in adipose (Fernandez et al., 2007), (ii) 12.7–58.8 ng g\(^{-1}\) (range)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>Biomarker of exposure to BPA and its chlorinated derivatives</th>
<th>Study objective(s)</th>
<th>Study location</th>
<th>Study year (i)</th>
<th>Population (iii)</th>
<th>Age (iv)</th>
<th>BMI (v)</th>
<th>Sample size (vi)</th>
<th>Human bio-matrix</th>
<th>Analytical method</th>
<th>LOD / LOQ (ng mL$^{-1}$)</th>
<th>Recovery (%)</th>
<th>RSD (%)</th>
<th>Detection rate (in %)</th>
<th>Concentration</th>
<th>Study Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Chlorinated-BPA: ClBPA, Cl$_2$BPA, Cl$_3$BPA, Cl$_4$BPA</td>
<td>SPME-based analytical method development to quantify Cl$_4$BPA in human plasma.</td>
<td>(i) Spain</td>
<td>(ii) n.a.</td>
<td>(iii) Healthy volunteers</td>
<td>(iv) n.a.</td>
<td>(v) n.a.</td>
<td>N = 9</td>
<td>Plasma</td>
<td>GC-MS</td>
<td>0.5 $\Delta$ / 0.8 $\Delta$</td>
<td>0.5 $\Delta$ / 0.8 $\Delta$</td>
<td>2.7 $\Delta$ / 4.5 $\Delta$</td>
<td>3.0 $\Delta$ / 5.0 $\Delta$</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>BPA$_{[4,6-e]}$, Chlorinated-BPA</td>
<td>Quantify BPA and Cl$_4$BPA in adipose tissue from women.</td>
<td>(i) Spain</td>
<td>(ii) n.a.</td>
<td>(iii) Adult females</td>
<td>(iv) n.a.</td>
<td>(v) n.a.</td>
<td>N = 20</td>
<td>Adipose tissue</td>
<td>GC-MS</td>
<td>0.5 / n.a.</td>
<td>0.5 / n.a.</td>
<td>2.7 / n.a.</td>
<td>3.0 / n.a.</td>
<td>95-105% (for all the analytes)</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>BPA$_{[4,6-e]}$, Chlorinated-BPA</td>
<td>Method development for “free” BPA and Cl$_4$BPA in placenta.</td>
<td>(i) Spain</td>
<td>(ii) n.a.</td>
<td>(iii) Females</td>
<td>(iv) n.a.</td>
<td>(v) n.a.</td>
<td>N = 49</td>
<td>Placenta tissue</td>
<td>LC-MS/MS</td>
<td>0.20$^{\beta}$ / 0.50$^{\beta}$</td>
<td>0.30$^{\beta}$ / 1.00$^{\beta}$</td>
<td>0.30$^{\beta}$ / 1.00$^{\beta}$</td>
<td>0.40$^{\beta}$ / 1.40$^{\beta}$</td>
<td>0.60$^{\beta}$ / 2.00$^{\beta}$</td>
<td>L$<em>{[0.4]}$: 99, H$</em>{[3.2]}$: 99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>BPA$_{[4,6-e]}$, Chlorinated-BPA</td>
<td>Multi-class method for environmental phenols in human placenta.</td>
<td>(i) Spain</td>
<td>(ii) n.a.</td>
<td>(iii) Volunteers</td>
<td>(iv) n.a.</td>
<td>(v) n.a.</td>
<td>N = 50</td>
<td>Placenta tissue</td>
<td>LC-MS/MS</td>
<td>0.2$^{\gamma}$ / 0.5$^{\gamma}$</td>
<td>0.3$^{\gamma}$ / 1.0$^{\gamma}$</td>
<td>0.3$^{\gamma}$ / 1.0$^{\gamma}$</td>
<td>0.4$^{\gamma}$ / 1.4$^{\gamma}$</td>
<td>0.6$^{\gamma}$ / 2.0$^{\gamma}$</td>
<td>L$<em>{[0.4]}$: 99, H$</em>{[3.2]}$: 99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>BPA$_{[4,6-e]}$, Chlorinated-BPA</td>
<td>Develop a method for unconjugated BPA and Cl$_4$BPA in human breast milk.</td>
<td>(i) France</td>
<td>(ii) n.a.</td>
<td>(iii) Females</td>
<td>(iv) n.a.</td>
<td>(v) n.a.</td>
<td>N = 3</td>
<td>Breast milk</td>
<td>LC-MS/MS</td>
<td>0.09 / 0.40</td>
<td>0.01 / 0.40</td>
<td>0.05 / 0.40</td>
<td>0.05 / 0.40</td>
<td>0.04 / 0.40</td>
<td>L$<em>{[0.4]}$: 101, H$</em>{[3.2]}$: 93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>BPA$_{[4,6-e]}$, Chlorinated-BPA</td>
<td>Determination of free and conjugated BPA forms and Cl$_4$BPA in human urine and serum matrices.</td>
<td>(i) USA</td>
<td>(ii) 2011</td>
<td>(iii) Healthy volunteers</td>
<td>(iv) n.a.</td>
<td>(v) n.a.</td>
<td>N = 31 (urine) and 14 (serum)</td>
<td>Urine,$<em>{[40]}$, Serum,$</em>{[53,54]}$</td>
<td>LC-MS/MS</td>
<td>0.003 / 0.01</td>
<td>0.02 / 0.05</td>
<td>0.02 / 0.05</td>
<td>0.02 / 0.05</td>
<td>0.02 / 0.05</td>
<td>L$<em>{[0.4]}$: 78-123% for all analytes in urine; H$</em>{[0.4]}$: 78-129% for all analytes in serum. L$<em>{[1.0]}$: 72-118% for all analytes in serum. H$</em>{[1.0]}$: 76-123% for all analytes in serum. L$<em>{[1.0]}$: 10 ng H$</em>{[1.0]}$: 100 ng</td>
</tr>
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</table>

(continued on next page)
### Table 4 (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>Biomarker of exposure to BPA and its chlorinated derivatives</th>
<th>Study objective(s)</th>
<th>Study location(s)</th>
<th>Sampling year</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Age (years)</th>
<th>Sample size</th>
<th>Human bio-matrix</th>
<th>Analytical method</th>
<th>LOD / LOQ (ng mL(^{-1}))</th>
<th>Recovery (%)</th>
<th>RSD (%)</th>
<th>Detection rate [n (%)]</th>
<th>Concentration</th>
<th>Study Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>BPA(_{d,free}) Chlorinated-BPA</td>
<td>(i) Develop a method for un conjugated BPA and Cl(_x)BPA in human breast milk.</td>
<td>(i) France</td>
<td>(ii) n.a.</td>
<td>(iii) Females</td>
<td>(iv) 33 (4 years)</td>
<td>(v) 22.1 (28) kg m(^{-2})</td>
<td>(vi) N = 21</td>
<td>Colostrum (Breast milk)</td>
<td>LC-MS/MS</td>
<td>0.09 / 0.40</td>
<td>0.01 / 0.40</td>
<td>0.05 / 0.40</td>
<td>0.04 / 0.40</td>
<td>±20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>BPA(_{d,free}) Chlorinated-BPA</td>
<td>(i) Find associations between domestic activities that involve chlorine-based cleaning products and mono-chlorinated BPA levels in urine.</td>
<td>(i) Cyprus</td>
<td>(ii) 2012</td>
<td>(iii) Adults</td>
<td>(iv) 51 (17 years)</td>
<td>(v) 25 (5) kg m(^{-2})</td>
<td>(vi) N = 224</td>
<td>Urine</td>
<td>GC-MS/MS</td>
<td>0.095 / 0.319</td>
<td>0.032 / 0.108</td>
<td>±10% (inter- and intra-day)</td>
<td>224 (100%)</td>
<td>202 (90%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>BPA(_{d,free}) Chlorinated-BPA</td>
<td>(i) Develop a method for simultaneous quantification of environmental phenols based on sample preparation of fat and proteins precipitation.</td>
<td>(i) Spain</td>
<td>(ii) n.a.</td>
<td>(iii) Females</td>
<td>(iv) n.a.</td>
<td>(v) n.a.</td>
<td>(vi) N = 10</td>
<td>Breast milk</td>
<td>LC-MS/MS</td>
<td>0.05 / 0.15</td>
<td>0.04 / 0.12</td>
<td>0.04 / 0.14</td>
<td>0.04 / 0.13</td>
<td>±10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>BPA(_{d,free}) Chlorinated-BPA</td>
<td>(i) GC and LC based methods development for selected endocrine disrupting chemicals in human breast milk.</td>
<td>(i) Spain</td>
<td>(ii) n.a.</td>
<td>(iii) Healthy women</td>
<td>(iv) n.a.</td>
<td>(v) n.a.</td>
<td>(vi) N = 10</td>
<td>Breast milk [A]</td>
<td>LC-MS/MS</td>
<td>[B] GC-MS/MS</td>
<td>[A] LC-0.1: 106, H(<em>{100}): 99, t(</em>{10,0}): 110, H(_{100}): 100</td>
<td>[A] LC-0.1: 92, H(_{100}): 100</td>
<td>[A] LC-0.1: 92, H(_{100}): 100</td>
<td>[A] LC-0.1: 109, H(_{100}): 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study</td>
<td>Methodology</td>
<td>Analytes</td>
<td>LOD/LOQ</td>
<td>Range</td>
<td>Lo</td>
<td>Hi</td>
<td>Notes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vela-Soria et al. (2014)</td>
<td>Single method for multi-classes of environmental phenols and their concentration in free and total (free + conjugated) forms in human urine.</td>
<td>(i) Spain</td>
<td>0.09 / 0.27</td>
<td>Range: 93.7-106.7%</td>
<td>10.6 ng g⁻¹</td>
<td>106 ng g⁻¹</td>
<td>15.4 ng g⁻¹</td>
<td>n.a. (~70%)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Venisse et al. (2014)</td>
<td>Single method for unconjugated BPA and Cl₂BPA in human urine.</td>
<td>(i) France</td>
<td>0.14 / 0.05</td>
<td>Range: 3.12-12.7%</td>
<td>0.1 ng g⁻¹</td>
<td>2.5 ng g⁻¹</td>
<td>10 times the LOQ for the respective analyte.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yang et al. (2014a)</td>
<td>Simultaneous measurement of multi-residue environmental phenols in human placenta.</td>
<td>(i) Spain</td>
<td>0.1 / 0.3</td>
<td>Range: spiked concentrations at 2.5 and 10 times the LOQ for the respective analyte.</td>
<td>1-5 ng g⁻¹</td>
<td>50 ng g⁻¹</td>
<td>n.a. (70%)</td>
<td>0% (0%)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Vela-Soria et al. (2015) | Chlorinated-BPA | (i) Adults | 0.1 / 0.3 | Range: 3.12-12.7% | 0.1 ng g⁻¹ | 2.5 ng g⁻¹ | 10 times the LOQ for the respective analyte. | n.a. (70%) | 0% (0%) | <LOD | <LOD-

**Legend:**
- **LOD**: Limit of Detection
- **LOQ**: Limit of Quantification
- **n.a.**: Not applicable
- **%**: Percentage
- **ng g⁻¹**: nanograms per gram
- **ng mL⁻¹**: nanograms per milliliter
- **X ng g⁻¹**: X nanograms per gram
- **X ng mL⁻¹**: X nanograms per milliliter
- **~X ng g⁻¹**: Approximately X nanograms per gram
- **~X ng mL⁻¹**: Approximately X nanograms per milliliter
- **Range**: Range of values
- **Range X ng g⁻¹**: Range of X nanograms per gram
- **Range X ng mL⁻¹**: Range of X nanograms per milliliter
in placenta (Jimenez-Diaz et al., 2010), (iii) 1.87 [1.23] ng mL$^{-1}$ (arithmetic mean [sd]) in breast milk (Migeot et al., 2013), and (iv) 0.048 ng mL$^{-1}$ (geometric mean) in urine (Liao and Kannan, 2012). Reported BPS levels were in the range of 5.7–22.2 ng g$^{-1}$ (range) in placenta (Jimenez-Diaz et al., 2010), (iii) 1.87 [1.38] ng mL$^{-1}$ (arithmetic mean [sd]) in breast milk (Migeot et al., 2013), and (iv) 5.4 ng mL$^{-1}$ (geometric mean) in urine (Liao and Kannan, 2012) (Table 4). Because Cl$_2$BPA are more lipophilic in nature compared to BPA (Migeot et al., 2013), it could be possible that Cl$_2$BPA compounds were present at higher concentrations in lipid-containing matrices, such as adipose and breast milk rather in urine or blood. For example, (i) Cl$_2$BPA was detected in 20–100% of the studied breast milk samples (Cariot et al., 2012; Migeot et al., 2013; Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014a) compared to 0–40% in urine (Liao and Kannan, 2012; Vela-Soria et al., 2014b; Venisse et al., 2014), and (ii) maximum Cl$_2$BPA concentrations were in the range of 0.40–4.13 ng mL$^{-1}$ in breast milk (Cariot et al., 2012; Migeot et al., 2013; Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014a) compared to 0.11–1.06 ng mL$^{-1}$ in human urine (Liao and Kannan, 2012; Vela-Soria et al., 2014b; Venisse et al., 2014). But, given our limited understanding of the pharmacokinetics and half-lives of Cl$_2$BPA derivatives and bisphenol analogs in humans, it is premature to suggest an appropriate biological matrix or a biomarker for Cl$_2$BPA exposure assessment in humans based on the available studies, thus far. Among the structural analogs of BPA, bisphenol S (BPS) was the most studied structural analog of BPA in human matrices, with detection rates of 81% (Liao and Kannan, 2012), 65% and 30% (Vela-Soria et al., 2014a,b), 70% (Xue et al., 2015), 40% (Yang et al., 2014a), and 78% (Zhou et al., 2014) in urine and 3% in breast milk (Deceuninck et al., 2015). Reported BPS levels were in the range of (i) <0.02–21.0 ng mL$^{-1}$ (Liao et al., 2012a), (ii) <0.02 ng mL$^{-1}$ (Vela-Soria et al., 2014a,b), (iii) <0.10–12.2 ng mL$^{-1}$ (Xue et al., 2015), (iv) <0.01–7.046 μg kg$^{-1}$ (Yang et al., 2014a), and (v) <0.03–12.3 ng mL$^{-1}$ (Zhou et al., 2014) in urine and (vi) <0.003–0.23 μg kg$^{-1}$ in breast milk (Deceuninck et al., 2015) (Table 5).

3. Current challenges and future perspectives

3.1. Methodological advances in biomonitoring protocols

Biomonitoring-based protocols to assess internal exposures to Cl$_2$BPA and structural BPA analogs relied upon GC–MS/MS and LC–MS/MS techniques both satisfactorily performing in regards to analytical method accuracy and sensitivity for Cl$_2$BPA quantitation (as in the example of breast milk, Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014b). However, LC–MS technology is most commonly used in human biomonitoring protocols of Cl$_2$BPA derivatives (10 out of 14 studies, Table 4). A single methodology for Cl$_2$BPA extraction and assay from multiple matrices does not exist due to differences in sample preparation procedures and differences in optimal analyte recovery from different matrices. Although not used for human matrices, a novel derivatization of Cl$_2$BPA in water samples using dansyl chloride resulted in at least a 10 fold increase in sensitivity with UPLC–ESI-MS/MS analysis (Fan et al., 2013). The achieved detection limits were 0.001 ng mL$^{-1}$ (CIBPA), 0.002 ng mL$^{-1}$ (Cl$_2$BPA), 0.001 ng mL$^{-1}$ (Cl$_3$BPA), and 0.001 ng mL$^{-1}$ (Cl$_4$BPA) in water samples (Fan et al., 2013) compared to the best achieved limits of detection in human matrices such as 0.01 ng mL$^{-1}$ for CIBPA in adipose tissue (Fernandez et al., 2007), and 0.009 ng mL$^{-1}$, 0.018 ng mL$^{-1}$, and 0.014 ng mL$^{-1}$ for Cl$_2$BPA, Cl$_3$BPA, and Cl$_4$BPA in urine, respectively (Venisse et al., 2014). Dansyl chloride as a derivatization agent exhibited faster reaction rates with phenolic hydroxyl groups and thereby greater sensitivity using LC–MS/MS in electrospray ionization positive mode (Chang et al., 2010; Naassner et al., 2002). Adapting the dansylation procedure to human biospecimen (e.g. breast milk) (Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014b). Another emerging sample clean-up protocol is the use of online SPE that could help to (i) minimize manual handling of samples and thereby human errors, and solvent(s) exposures for the primary analyst, (ii) avoid additional steps, such as solvent evaporation and extract reconstitution, and thereby preventing loss of analytes, and (iii) high throughput extractions and time-conservative clean-up steps that are ideal to process a large number of samples. Need for a simplified analytical method is felt to minimize variance in the recoveries of spiked standards and internal standards that vary significantly within and between sample batches. A simplified method may also help to perform blank corrections at ease. Hence, the development of time-, and cost-effective sample preparation procedures, faster chromatography run times, and greater sensitive mass spectrometry detection conditions are needed to facilitate adoption of such protocols by large epidemiological cohort studies. Additional research is needed to identify the conjugated forms of BPA derivatives and analogs, if any, towards the development of generic analytical workflows for the simultaneous detection of parent and conjugated forms in a single method.

3.2. Matrix effects and role in biomonitoring

Matrix effects vary by the nature of biological sample, yielding either ion suppression or enhancement that eventually interferes with trace level quantification of BPA derivatives and analogs. These affect significantly the method performance variables, such as LOD, LOQ, linearity range, and inter- and intra-batch variability. This necessitates the use of an internal standard (stable isotope-labeled compound) that could overcome matrix effects present during extraction, clean-up, chromatography and ionization in the mass spectrometer source. LC–MS methods were more susceptible to matrix effects during the electrospray ionization process and hence required internal standardization compared to GC–MS protocols. However, GC methods offered higher LOD compared to the LC protocols. For example, a side by side comparison of the LODs from using LC–MS/MS and GC–MS/MS were 0.1 and 0.3 ng mL$^{-1}$ for Cl$_2$BPA, 0.2 and 1.0 ng mL$^{-1}$ for Cl$_3$BPA, and 0.3 and 1.5 ng mL$^{-1}$ for Cl$_4$BPA, respectively (Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014b). A preventive measure for minimizing matrix effect could be to follow the best sample clean-up protocol, though excessive pre-concentration of the study analytes would also concentrate in parallel the components that contribute to matrix effects. Hence, the pre-concentration factor needs to be carefully evaluated on a case by case basis. Matrix effects affect the analytical method LOQ but not necessarily the instrument LOQ, which are generally determined with spiked matrix and pure standards, respectively. Hence, it is of absolute importance to report method LOQ compared to the instrumentation LOQ, which is commonly reported in the literature.

Matrix effects on Cl$_2$BPA analysis in human samples were reported, except for a few studies (del Olmo et al., 2005; Fernandez et al., 2007; Kalyvas et al., 2014; Liao and Kannan, 2012; Migeot et al., 2013; Kalyvas et al., 2014; Liao and Kannan, 2012; Migeot et al., 2013).
Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014a). The widely practiced measure to minimize matrix effects was to use internal standards. The most commonly used internal standard was BPA-d4 in the so far available ClxBPA studies, with few exceptions such as use of (i) 13Cl-BPA (Liao and Kannan, 2012), (ii) BPA-d8 (Yang et al., 2014a), and (iii) a surrogate, bisphenol F (Fernandez et al., 2007). A notable effort is the use of 2,2′-Cl-BPA-d12, a custom made internal standard, specifically to eliminate matrix effects on ClxBPA measurements in human urine (Venisse et al., 2014). Though expensive, it is suggested to having 13C-labeled-compounds because they share similar physico-chemical properties that of 13Cl in comparison to the 1H versus 13H (deuterium) labeled internal standards (Briscoe et al., 2007; Van Eckhout et al., 2009; Wang et al., 2007). Few of the studies assessed matrix effects by comparing calibration curves built in the (i) initial mobile phase (solvent) and the human matrix under consideration (Jiménez-Díaz et al., 2010; Vela-Soria et al., 2011), (ii) washed sand and placenta (Vela-Soria et al., 2015), and (iii) distilled water and respective human sample (Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014b; Vela-Soria et al., 2014b). Few other studies assessed matrix effects by (i) analyte signal suppression (Cariot et al., 2012), (ii) post-column infusion and matrix factor calculation (Venisse et al., 2014), and (iii) a variance between samples (Yang et al., 2014a). Suggested calculation and presentation of matrix effects as percent relative signal suppression or enhancement (% ME) is missing in the available ClxBPA studies, while few studies compared the slopes of calibration curves built in different media towards assessing this effect (Jimenez-Diaz et al., 2010; Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014b; Vela-Soria et al., 2011; Vela-Soria et al., 2014b; Vela-Soria et al., 2015). Despite the use of precautionary measures and additional experimentation, matrix effects still prevailed during the analysis of ClxBPA in human matrices, because (i) assessment was made on a subset of samples or aliquots, while rest of real samples varied widely in composition, and (ii) recovery of internal standards varied significantly within and between batches of samples. Moreover, availability of commercial internal standards for ClxBPA is currently lacking for their wider use to correct for matrix effects.

3.3. Emerging BPA sub-classes: other halogenated derivatives

Recently, it was shown that BPA in a simulated water system reacted with chlorine giving rise to Cl-BPA, which may further undergo benzene ring opening, followed by halogenation resulting in the formation of trihalomethanes (a major class of disinfection by-products) and minor haloacetic acids (Li et al., 2015). If transformation of BPA to halogenated BPA congeners that further transform to disinfection by-products is confirmed in drinking water distribution systems, then it should be emphasized to monitor the association between exposures to BPA and disinfection by-products in relation to human health effects from exposure to water contaminants (Li et al., 2015; Zhai and Zhang, 2011). In addition, the range and types of possible halogenated derivatives formed when BPA comes in contact with chlorine and other chemical constituents present in domestic household consumer products is currently unknown. Calculated BPA-equivalent estrogenic activity (EQ_{BPA}) was higher for finished drinking water (user end) compared to the source water (prior to water treatment), indicating a plethora of estrogenic compounds formed after water treatment and within the drinking water pipe network (Fan et al., 2013). Taking these aspects into consideration, the scope of environmental monitoring of BPA derivatives and analogs should not only include the parent compounds but also a suite of transformation products that they can potentially form in the presence of reactive chlorine readily available in various ecosystems.

Research is needed to assess the magnitude and variability of exposures to emerging derivatives of BPA not only in finished tap water (Bourgin et al., 2013a,b), but also in relevant human matrices (for example, urine and blood). Apart from the chlorinated derivatives and structural analogs of BPA, occurrence of brominated forms such as tetrabromobisphenol A and its derivatives viz., tri-, di-, and mono-bromobisphenol A in human matrices is gaining attention. Reported mean concentrations of tetra- and tri-bromo BPAs in human breast milk samples were 1.9 and 5.5 ng g⁻¹ lipid wt., respectively, while mono- and di-bromo BPA were below LOQ of 0.01 ng g⁻¹ lipid (Nakao et al., 2015). It should be noted that tribromo BPA is reported to having interfering sugar and fatty acid metabolic pathways by acting as a ligand for peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor (Finì et al., 2012). Hence, in addition to ClxBPA there is a need to biomonitor other halogenated forms of BPA that have shown adverse health outcomes in cell culture and animal studies.

3.4. Biomarkers of exposure and epidemiological studies

The main focus of most of the so far published studies reporting ClxBPA and BPA analogs in human matrices was on the bioanalytical method development followed by validation in a small human sample size (Cariot et al., 2012; Jiménez-Díaz et al., 2010; Liao and Kannan, 2012; Liao et al., 2012a; Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014a; Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014b; Vela-Soria et al., 2015; Vela-Soria et al., 2014a; Vela-Soria et al., 2014b; Vela-Soria et al., 2011; Venisse et al., 2014; Xue et al., 2015; Yang et al., 2014a; Zhou et al., 2014). The rest of the published studies focused on biomonitoring and assessment of human exposures to ClxBPA (Fernandez et al., 2007; Kalvays et al., 2014; Liao and Kannan, 2012; Migeot et al., 2013; Yang et al., 2014a). Different sample sizes were used in the existing ClxBPA biomonitoring studies, ranging from 224 participants (Kalvays et al., 2014) to 94 participants (Yang et al., 2014a), 10 participants (Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014a; Rodriguez-Gomez et al., 2014b; Vela-Soria et al., 2015; Venisse et al., 2014), and 3 participants (Cariot et al., 2012). Sample sizes for human biomonitoring studies on BPA structural analogs ranged from 315 participants (from multiple countries, Liao et al., 2012a) to 20 participants (Vela-Soria et al., 2014a,b). Moreover, detection rates and concentrations in most of the reported studies thus far, mainly served (i) as a preliminary assessment of the range of concentrations expected to be found in the general population and (ii) as an indication on which biomatrix would be appropriate to quantify their magnitude of exposure accounting for matrix effects (for example, lipid-rich tissue versus urine).

In addition to oral ingestion, non-ingestion routes of exposure to ClxBPA could be important and yet to be fully elucidated. In addition to water intake and dermal contact, inhalation route was speculated to be one of their primary routes of exposure. It was speculated that free chlorine atoms or chloroform in the air, could react with BPA resulting in ClxBPA formation and subsequent exposures via the inhalation route, but this remains to be experimentally investigated (Kalvays et al., 2014). The variability in urinary concentrations of monochlorinated BPA was recently studied as a function of specific indoor chlorine-based water-use activities (household cleaning, swimming, etc.); results indicated non-ingestion routes as the primary contributor to human exposures to chlorinated derivatives of BPA (unpublished data from our laboratory). BPA derivatives (such as chlorinated BPA) have not been yet considered in the studies affiliated with the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES). If domestic cleaning and personal care and hygiene activities were indeed considered as relevant BPA and ClxBPA exposure sources, then the issue of non-food BPA exposures could be further investigated (Geens et al., 2011; Stahlhut et al., 2009).

For better assessment of biomarkers of exposures and effects, the premise is to overcome the most common limitations in the reviewed studies, such as (i) small sample size, (ii) cross-sectional studies that cannot rule out plausible biological causality, (iii) likely misclassification error due to mismatch between stage of critical window of susceptibility and exposure assessment, (iv) spot urine or a single sample of a biological matrix that may not shed information on short-lived, non-acumulating chemicals in humans, (v) not accounting for residual confounding effects, and (vi) reverse causality effects. Most importantly,
Table 5
Analytical methods and highlights for biomonitoring of structural analogs of bisphenol A in human tissue and matrices.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>Study</th>
<th>(i) Size</th>
<th>(i) Location</th>
<th>(i) Year</th>
<th>(i) Matrix</th>
<th>(i) Sample volume</th>
<th>(ii) Sample extraction/clean-up</th>
<th>(iii) Injection volume</th>
<th>(iv) Instrumentation</th>
<th>(v) Column</th>
<th>(vi) Mobile phase</th>
<th>(vii) Run time</th>
<th>Analytical performance</th>
<th>Bisphenol A and its structural analogs</th>
<th>Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>(i) n = 20</td>
<td>(ii) Portugal</td>
<td>(iii) n.a.</td>
<td>(iii) 2010–2011</td>
<td>(i) Urine</td>
<td>(ii) 5.0 mL (splitless)</td>
<td>(ii) SPE (Oasis MCX cartridge; 60 mg, 3 mL)</td>
<td>(iii) 10 μL</td>
<td>(iii) Injection volume</td>
<td>(iv) Multi-dimensional GC–MS (electron impact, SRM transitions)</td>
<td>(v) Heart-cutting GC separation of analytes with two columns. (a) Primary column: DB-5HT (5 m × 0.32 mm × 0.10 μm); and (b) secondary column: DB-SMS (20 m × 0.18 mm × 0.18 μm) with a restrictor (2 m × 0.10 mm).</td>
<td>(vi) Helium (carrier gas)</td>
<td>(vii) 10.0 min.</td>
<td>(i) LOD (ng mL⁻¹)</td>
<td>(ii) LOQ (ng mL⁻¹)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>(i) n = 315</td>
<td>(ii) Multiple countries</td>
<td>(iii) 2010–2011</td>
<td>(i) Urine</td>
<td>(ii) 0.5 mL</td>
<td>(iii) 10 μL</td>
<td>(ii) SPE (Oasis MCX cartridge; 60 mg, 3 mL)</td>
<td>(iii) 2 μL</td>
<td>(iv) Injection volume</td>
<td>(v) Multi-dimensional GC–MS (electron impact, SRM transitions)</td>
<td>(vi) Helium (carrier gas)</td>
<td>(vii) 10.0 min.</td>
<td>(i) LOD (ng mL⁻¹)</td>
<td>(ii) LOQ (ng mL⁻¹)</td>
<td>(iii) Recovery (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>(i) n = 30</td>
<td>(ii) Greece</td>
<td>(iii) n.a.</td>
<td>(i) Urine</td>
<td>(ii) 500 μL</td>
<td>(iii) 10 μL</td>
<td>(ii) LiE (ethyl acetate)</td>
<td>(iii) BADGE-D₃</td>
<td>(iv) Injection volume</td>
<td>(v) Multi-dimensional GC–MS (electron impact, SRM transitions)</td>
<td>(vi) Helium (carrier gas)</td>
<td>(vii) 20.0 min.</td>
<td>(i) LOD (ng mL⁻¹)</td>
<td>(ii) LOQ (ng mL⁻¹)</td>
<td>(i) Recovery (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>(i) n = 20</td>
<td>(ii) Spain</td>
<td>(iii) n.a.</td>
<td>(i) Urine</td>
<td>(ii) 5.0 mL (splitless)</td>
<td>(iii) 1 μL</td>
<td>(ii) Dispersive-LLE (trichloromethane)</td>
<td>(iii) BADGE-D₃</td>
<td>(iv) Injection volume</td>
<td>(v) Multi-dimensional GC–MS (electron impact, SRM transitions)</td>
<td>(vi) Helium (carrier gas)</td>
<td>(vii) 30.0 min.</td>
<td>(i) LOD (ng mL⁻¹)</td>
<td>(ii) LOQ (ng mL⁻¹)</td>
<td>(i) Recovery (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>(i) n = 20</td>
<td>(ii) Spain</td>
<td>(iii) n.a.</td>
<td>(i) Urine</td>
<td>(ii) 5.0 mL (splitless)</td>
<td>(iii) 2 μL</td>
<td>(ii) Dispersive-LLE (trichloromethane)</td>
<td>(iii) BADGE-D₃</td>
<td>(iv) Injection volume</td>
<td>(v) Multi-dimensional GC–MS (electron impact, SRM transitions)</td>
<td>(vi) Helium (carrier gas)</td>
<td>(vii) 26.0 min.</td>
<td>(i) LOD (ng mL⁻¹)</td>
<td>(ii) LOQ (ng mL⁻¹)</td>
<td>(i) Recovery (%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bisphenol A [2,2-bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)propane, (BPA)]; bisphenol B [2,2-bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)butane, (BPB)]; bisphenol AP [1,1-bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)-1-phenyl-ethane, (BPAP)]; bisphenol AF [2,2-bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)hexafluoropropane, (BPAF)]; bisphenol BP [bis-(4-hydroxyphenyl)diphenylmethane, (BPBP)]; bisphenol C [2,2-bis(3-methyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)propane, (BPC)]; bisphenol Cl2 [bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2,2-dichlorethylene, (BPC2)]; bisphenol E [1,1-bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)ethane, (BPE)]; bisphenol PH [5,5-(1-methylethyliden)-bis[1,1-(bisphenyl)-2-ol]propane, (BPPH)]; bisphenol S [bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)sulfone, (BPS)]; bisphenol F [bis(4-hydroxydiphenyl)methane, (BPF)]; bisphenol FL [9,9′-bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)fluorene, (BPFL)]; bisphenol Z [1,1-bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)-cyclohexane, (BPZ)]; bisphenol M [1,3-bis(2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-propyl)benzene, (BPM)]; bisphenol P [1,4-bis(2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-propyl)benzenzene, (BPP)]; Bisphenol A diglycidyl ether (BADGE); Bisphenol A (2, 3-di-hydroxypropoxy) glycidyl ether (BADGE-HCl); Bisphenol A (3-chloro-2-hydroxypropoxy) glycidyl ether (BADGE-HCl); Bisphenol A bis(2,3-di-hydroxypropoxy) glycidyl ether (BADGE-2HCl); Bisphenol A bis(3-chloro-2-hydroxypropoxy) glycidyl ether (BADGE-2HCl); Bisphenol F diglycidyl ether (BADGE); Bisphenol F bis(2,3-di-hydroxypropoxy) glycidyl ether (BADGE-2HCl); tetrachlorobisphenol A (TCBPA); tetrabromobisphenol A (TBBPA).

Data interpreted from a figure and hence a visual approximation.

b Limit of detection (LOD).

cg kg⁻¹.

d Range.

f LC-MS/MS (ESI +ve mode) for BADGE analysis.
as recently demonstrated in the case of BPA (Vandenburb et al., 2014), a round robin approach to validate sample collection and analysis protocols is quintessential before deriving at associations between human exposures to these chemicals and their possible health effects.

4. Conclusion

Collective evidence reviewed in this report suggested a widespread occurrence of ClxBPA and structural analogs of BPA in human biospecimen matrices and various environmental media as fueled by recent years’ growing scientific interest. Exposure sources and pathways of ClxBPA and structural BPA analogs in a suite of environmental media and consumer products were evident, yet to be fully elucidated. It was suggested that the increased halogen content of ClxBPA could modify the physicochemical properties of BPA derivatives allowing them to partition between the gas/liquid phases, giving rise to all three human routes of exposure. Similarly, structural analogs of BPA were detected in human biospecimen during the last couple of years indicating their gradually increasing detection in consumer products as safer alternatives to BPA. In the absence of human data on structural analogs of BPA and chlorinated derivatives of BPA, in-vitro and in-vivo studies hint towards their obesogenic and diabetogenic potential. Hence, it was suggested that the inclusion of BPA analogs and derivatives in prospective cohort studies would shed light to their health effects in a systematic fashion.

Human studies are needed to answer the research questions: (i) whether ClxBPA exposures occur internally from metabolic conversion of BPA to respective derivatives in human systems or externally as reported to occur in environment or both, (ii) what the biochemical pathways are that yield ClxBPA metabolites for internal exposure, (iii) what are the exposure sources and frequency of occurrence in environmental media and consumer products, and (iv) how chlorinated BPA metabolites and BPA analogs could act as endocrine-disrupting compounds in human studies. The exposure sources of ClxBPA in the indoor environment and the contribution of non-ingestion and ingestion routes to the total ClxBPA body burden remains to be determined, including the contribution of various consumer products mediating ClxBPA formation in environmental compartments. Low-dose BPA health effects may need to be revisited by incorporating knowledge on its chlorinated analogs (ClxBPA). In addition, the investigation of alternative physiological pathways of BPA resulting in higher estrogenic-active metabolites that could aggravate adverse biological responses is needed. It may be prudent to study whether halogenated derivatives of bisphenol and other environmental phenols induce obesogenic effects, and if so, whether they induce lipid accumulation in adipose or non-adipose tissue or both.

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Competing financial interests

The authors declare no competing financial interests.

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