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Soy Maker Omits Studies That Soy May Cause Cancer

The Weston A. Price Foundation, a non-profit nutrition education foundation, is urging the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to deny a petition that would allow soy products to claim they prevent cancer. They say the petition by Solae, a manufacturer of soy protein and other processed soy products, omits many studies indicating soy may cause cancer.



The FDA will make the decision regarding the petition later this year. If passed, the manufacturer could label their soy products as cancer fighters to influence consumers buying decisions. Many experts say Solae was "highly selective" in choosing the evidence they submitted to the FDA, emphasizing favorable outcomes when results were inconclusive and leaving out studies that suggest soy protein can contribute to, and even cause and accelerate, cancer.

Solae would make a lot of money off of the cancer health claim. As Sally Fallon, president of the Weston A. Price Foundation, points out:

"Since the FDA authorized the Soy Protein and Coronary Heart Disease Health Claim, per capita consumption of soy protein increased from 0.78 g/day in 1998 to 2.23 g/day in 2002. Solae predicts that consumption of soy protein will double with a cancer health claim. Solae stands to reap tremendous financial gain at the expense of the public."

Even FDA scientists have warned of the cancer-causing effects of soy and the dangers of consuming too many soy foods. And according to the British Committee on Toxicity (COT), who reviewed much of Solae's evidence, the results were "inconsistent and contradictory." They point out that soy foods have been linked to an increased risk of prostate cancer and have caused changes to the brain.

Other misleading claims mentioned by the Weston A. Price Foundation include:

- Solae claims that soy protein prevents gastrointestinal