This program is available in all provinces except for Quebec.

Participant in the

This initiative has included the first health impediments regulation under the new Public Health Act to recognize the harmful effects of trans fat on the health of British Columbians. In partnership with the Heart and Stroke Foundation of BC & Yukon and in collaboration with the food industry, a number of resources and supports were developed to assist industry in making the required changes. These include a website (www.restricttransfat.ca), 8-1-1 Healthlink BC phone line and translated informational materials. Environmental health officers have been enforcing the regulation and have completed over 30,000 inspections. Food service establishments have achieved close to 90% compliance.

The Ministry of Health is committed to helping British Columbians live healthy and active lifestyles and is pleased to take this opportunity to share our success in restricting trans fat in food service establishments. These include a website (www.restricttransfat.ca), 8-1-1 Healthlink BC phone line and translated informational materials. Environmental health officers have been enforcing the regulation and have completed over 30,000 inspections. Food service establishments have achieved close to 90% compliance.

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Let us reconsider

The article in the Sept. 6 issue of CMAJ about sex-selective abortion in China (and elsewhere) was read with interest.1 Western societies have long promoted abortion-on-demand and have insisted that the discussion of reproductive health be kept between doctor and patient. We screen for “defects” such as Down syndrome and spina bifida, and taxpayer funds cover the termination of unwanted pregnancies.

The abortion-on-demand philosophy has extended to the use of medications such as Plan B, which is available in pharmacies without a prescription. A woman in Canada can find out the gender of her unborn child and decide at less than 20 weeks to have an abortion. Western culture has gone to great lengths to make abortion-on-demand part of medical “rights” around the world.

This sounds like we are reaping what we have sown, and that this is not a Chinese problem, but a worldwide problem. This writer would encourage a reconsideration of the policy of abortion-on-demand.

John Luge MD
Private practice, Bonnyville, Alta.

Reference

Letters to the editor

In submitting a letter, you automatically consent to have it appear online and/or in print. All letters accepted for print will be edited by CMAJ for space and style. Most references and multiple authors’ names, full affiliations and competing interests will appear online only. (The full version of any letter accepted for print will be posted at cmaj.ca.)

Letters to the editor

Pfizer CV portfolio: Available and accessible.

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References


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