

# New Study Targets Fluorinated Grease-Proofing Agents Employed in Paper Packaging for Fast Food



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- Fluorinated chemicals are used in formulating food packaging paper and paperboard materials for their grease-repellent properties.
- A recent study by the Silent Spring Institute, published in [Environmental Science & Technology Letters](#), suggests that a substantial portion of the paper and paperboard used for fast food packaging contains certain fluorinated grease-proofing chemicals, including poly or perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The study, which has received extensive media attention (see e.g., [here](#) and [here](#)), implicitly suggests that the presence of PFAS in the food packaging poses some safety or environmental concern.
- While the press coverage suggests a potential health concern for consumers based on this study, at least some of the news articles do reference a U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) spokesperson who stated that FDA has carefully reviewed the science on short-chain compounds and has not identified any safety concerns.

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