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MADGE BACKS CARPENTER TO HALT GM FOOD APPROVALS

Mothers and others against GM foods and crops (MADGE) back the WA Government's calls for a halt to GM food approvals.

Member of MADGE, Madeleine Love, said from her home in Benalla today:

"MADGE has a position of no confidence in the capacity of Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) to meet its primary obligation 18(1)(a) the Protection of Public Health and Safety, in respect of GM food applications."

"Since the introduction of GM foods to Australian supermarket shelves hospital admissions for anaphylaxis (severe allergic reaction) in 0-4 year olds has risen 493%, and the increase in admission for the 5-14 year olds is similar." [1]

"Adults are also showing an increase in severe reactions."

"Below this severe tip of the iceberg lies a 12-fold increase in food allergy cases at representative clinics, seeing a complete change in the case-mix."

"There is something going wrong with our food. No hygiene hypothesis can explain this."

"Many novel GM proteins have been predicted to be allergenic, and they have not been tested by FSANZ nor labelled so mothers can avoid them."

"It may be that GM food is not the problem but how can we tell when it's not tested or labelled?"

[1] Paediatric food allergy trends in a community-based specialist allergy practice, 1995-2006, Mullins RJ, MJA Vol 186, No 12, 18 June 2007, pp 618-621; http://www.mja.com.au/public/issues/186_12_180607/mul11320_fm.html (more graphs)

