The objective of the exposure assessment was to estimate the daily intake of foods as well as benzoate in foods consumed by elementary school children. Market-basket based study (total diet study) approach will be used in this assessment. Seventy two respondents ranging 6-12 year-old were randomly selected from three elementary schools representing low, middle and high social class-schools in Malang, East Java, Indonesia. Each respondent was surveyed for her / his food intakes over six day periods. Food dairy and dietary recall approaches were used to determine individual food consumption. The shopping list generated from the consumption data was utilized for a market basket of food reflecting a defined total diet of a consumer in the study. The food composite approach was used by mixing the individual food items into groups of similar foods to be analyzed. One hundred ninety seven food items were recorded in the consumption data and 81 of those were sampled and analyzed in the present study. It was found that 95% of the total food intakes, 31 are foods distributed nationally, 6 are local products, 9 unregistered foods and 35 are ready to eat food items. Ready to eat foods contribute to 70 % of the total weight intake which were dominated by cereal food group accounted for 33% of RTE foods consumed. The daily intake of benzoate by the respondents was below the JECFA ADI accounted for about 74% respectively.

Keywords: benzoate, exposure assessment, total diet study

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