

Around the Globe, Researchers Recognize That Fluoridation Is a Safe, Effective Way to Improve Health

AUSTRALIA

“The review found that water fluoridation at levels used in Australia does not cause any negative health effects. ... Water fluoridation in Australia is effective in reducing the occurrence and severity of tooth decay.”

— [National Health and Medical Research Council](#), *Draft Information Report*, Sept. 2016

BRAZIL

“Adults with access to fluoridated water for a longer period had less [tooth decay] experience ... It is important to highlight that water fluoridation in Brazil started in the 1950s ... We can conclude that longer lifetime access to fluoridated water was associated with lower levels of dental caries even in the context of multiple exposures to fluoride.”

— [Journal of Dental Research](#), July 2016, Vol. 95, No. 8

CANADA

“We set out to examine the short-term impact of fluoridation cessation on children’s [dental cavity] experience, with a specific interest in whether findings we observed based on tooth-level data . . . were also apparent when focusing on smooth tooth surfaces ... If an adverse effect of cessation is indeed occurring, it should be apparent when using this more sensitive measure. This line of thinking was borne out in our results. In primary teeth, an increase in [tooth decay] was observed in Calgary (where fluoridation ended in 2011).”

— [Community Dentistry & Oral Epidemiology](#), Feb. 2016, Vol. 44, No. 3



CHILE

“We conclude that after 8 years of drinking water fluoridation in the metropolitan area (of Chile’s capital city), the number of children with no history of [tooth decay] has increased by approximately 100%.”

— [Revista Odonto Ciência](#), 2011 study, Vol. 26, No. 2

ENGLAND

“The findings of this report are consistent with the view that water fluoridation is an effective and safe public health measure to reduce the prevalence and severity of dental caries, and reduce dental health inequalities . . . The reduction in the number of five-year-olds experiencing caries and the decrease in the severity of this dental disease was significant in those receiving a fluoridated water supply.”

— [Public Health England](#), *Water Fluoridation: Health Monitoring Report for England*, March 2018



IRELAND

“The main findings of this study were that the prevalence of households with fluoridated water in the local electoral district had a statistically significant and positive association with the probability of an older person having all their own teeth.”

— [Community Dentistry & Oral Epidemiology](#), Feb. 2015, Vol. 43, No. 1

ISRAEL

“In this study, we examined whether water fluoridation affects not only tooth decay but also the more serious effect of dental caries, which is hospitalization for odontogenic infections. . . It appears from the results that water fluoridation may prevent approximately one-half of hospitalizations for odontogenic infections. . . this simple and cheap health measure may prevent approximately 300 hospitalizations [in Israel] annually.”

— [Journal of the American Dental Association](#), March 2015, Vol. 146, No. 3

NEW ZEALAND

“There is compelling evidence that fluoridation of water at the established and recommended levels produces broad benefits for the dental health of New Zealanders. . . the panel is unanimous in its conclusion that there are no adverse effects of fluoride of any significance arising from fluoridation at the levels used in New Zealand.”

— [Report by the Royal Society of New Zealand & Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor](#), Aug. 2014

SINGAPORE

“It is highly unlikely that water fluoridation would be reversed . . . Singapore is fortunate to have enjoyed universal coverage of water fluoridation for over 50 years. The population is also highly educated and health awareness is generally high.”

— [Singapore Dental Journal](#), June 2011, Vol. 32, No 1

SOUTH KOREA

“The aim of this study was to evaluate the effectiveness of caries prevention from a 6-year water fluoridation program (WFP) in Changwon City, Korea . . . Within the limitation of the study, the current findings show that the WFP in Changwon City, Korea reduces the prevalence of dental caries and WFP should be recommended to other cities.”

— [*International Association for Dental Research*](#), study findings presented on June 24, 2016

UNITED STATES

“The Community Preventive Services Task Force recommends community water fluoridation based on strong evidence of effectiveness in reducing dental caries (tooth decay) across populations. Evidence shows the prevalence of caries is substantially lower in communities with community water fluoridation.”

— [*U.S. Community Preventive Services Task Force*](#), review completed in April 2013