

Is it Time to Stop Fluoridating Our Water?



Free Presentation by
Paul Connett PhD

With Introductions
by Local Dentists,

**Bill Osmunson,
DDS, MPH**

**Paul G. Rubin,
DDS, FIAOMT**

Tuesday, May 9
from 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Talaris Conference Center
Cedar Room
4000 NE 41st Street
Seattle

Sponsored by the
International Academy
of Oral Medicine
and Toxicology
(www.iaomt.org)

Information:

fluorideforum@comcast.net

[www.fluorideaction.org/
seattleforum.htm](http://www.fluorideaction.org/seattleforum.htm)

References:

www.fluorideaction.org
www.slweb.org
www.ewg.org

New scientific discoveries are often the catalyst for change, and accumulated research over the past ten years now challenges us to rethink the policy of adding fluoride to our drinking water. Dr. Paul Connett, international authority on fluoride and water fluoridation, will address this issue at a Fluoride Forum on May 9th in Seattle.

Dr. Connett, Professor of Chemistry at St. Lawrence University, New York, has given invited presentations to organizations around the world, including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the National Research Council. He will discuss the latest scientific findings regarding fluoridation, including effectiveness, health risks and overexposure.

What fluoride product is added to the public water supply in the Seattle area?

- Hydrofluorosilicic acid, an industrial waste product recovered from the smokestack scrubbers during production of phosphate fertilizer.
- This substance is not FDA approved and is not pharmaceutical (purified) grade. It contains trace amounts of heavy metals such as lead, arsenic and radium.
- According to the EPA, no chronic health studies exist on this substance.
- Common charcoal filters do not remove fluoride.

What is currently known about fluoride's effectiveness in preventing tooth decay?

- Dental researchers have stated that fluoride's predominant effect is topical (directly placed on the teeth), not systemic. Therefore, ingestion is unnecessary.
- The decline in tooth decay seen in the past 40 years is similar in both fluoridated and unfluoridated countries, according to recent data from the World Health Organization.
- Major U.S. cities such as Seattle, Chicago, Cincinnati and Boston all report high levels of tooth decay among the poor, yet these cities have been fluoridated for decades.

What does current research indicate about fluoride's safety?

- In 2005, the CDC stated that 32% of American children now have some form of dental fluorosis, a permanent scarring of the teeth due to excess fluoride. Fluoride is prevalent in prepared foods and beverages and is also found in pesticides applied to grains, fruits and vegetables; when added to the water supply it is impossible to control the dose.
- About 45% of Seattle's formula-fed infants are overexposed to fluoride according to a recent analysis of government data by the Environmental Working Group.
- A growing body of scientific research links fluoride exposure to disruption of the nervous and endocrine systems including the brain and thyroid, according to the National Research Council. Strong evidence linking fluoride to bone fracture and joint pain was also noted.

What are recent, significant developments concerning fluoride?

- On August 19, 2005, prompted by the growing evidence of health risks from fluoride, 11 U.S. EPA unions, representing over 7000 professional employees, called for a nationwide moratorium on fluoridation and also a congressional investigation on this policy.
- In June, 2005, scientists at the Environmental Working Group asked the National Institute of Health to list fluoride in tap water as a carcinogen.
- The Fluoride Deception by Christopher Bryson, 2004, exposes the history of water fluoridation policy. The Natural Resources Defense Council review of Bryson's book can be found at <http://www.nrdc.org/onearth/04fal/reviews2.asp>.