

Waterloo Watch



"People watching out for our community."

Professional Ethics



American Dental Association Advice Given To Its Members (1979)

"Individual dentists must be convinced that they need not be familiar with scientific reports of laboratory and field investigations on fluoridation to be effective participants in the promotion program and that nonparticipation is overt neglect of professional responsibility" (ADA White Paper, 1979).

Recapitulation

- Dentists are not encouraged to read the research
- Dentists are required to promote water fluoridation
- Not promoting water fluoridation is an “overt neglect of professional responsibility”

Past President of Australian Dental Association Speaks Out Against Water Fluoridation

“It is correct that Dr. Harms was the president of ADASA ... It is the opinion of ADASA that the term “Past President of ADASA” should only be used in accordance with ADASA policy or business when public statements are being made. Dr Harms’ anti fluoridation stance is clearly not ADASA policy.”

Medicine Act 1991

Advertising Regulations, Ontario Regulation 114/94, Part II, Section 6(2).

“Information communicated under subsection (1) must not, be false, misleading or deceptive by the inclusion or omission of any information; contain a testimonial or any comparative or superlative statements; or contain any reference to a specific drug...”

Canadian Dental Association Code Of Ethics

"Dentists shall not represent their education, qualifications or competence in any way that would be false or misleading."

Interpretation: Dentists have no authority to give advice outside of the field of dentistry

Conclusionary Opinions Based On Fact ???

- Medical professionals use their title to imply that they are an expert by virtue of training, license and occupation on such matters. Inclusion of the fact that one is a medical professional is intended to impart the confidence and respect afforded the entire industry of medical professionals.
- What the citizens of this city wish to know is whether conclusionary opinions are based on factual evidence.
- If it is based on factual evidence, professionals should be willing to produce the relevant and supporting documents.
- If it is based on opinion, they should so state.

"Fluoridation of drinking water is one of the ten most successful public health measures in the 20th century."

From ROW website

Health Canada has only recently admitted that this quote is unsubstantiated.

“Fluoride prevents tooth decay by making the outer layer of teeth stronger, which protects the tooth against acids that cause decay.”

From ROW website

“Even when the outer enamel has higher fluoride levels, such as 1,000 ppm, it does not measurably withstand acid induced dissolution any better than enamel with lower levels of fluoride.”

Cover Story in JADA 2000

“Fluoride’s caries-preventive properties initially were attributed to changes in enamel during tooth development because of the association between fluoride and cosmetic changes in enamel and a belief that fluoride incorporated into enamel during tooth development would result in a more acid-resistant mineral. However, laboratory and epidemiologic research suggests that fluoride prevents dental caries predominately after eruption of the tooth into the mouth, and its actions primarily are topical for both adults and children.”

Centers for Disease Control; MMWR Weekly Report. 1999;48:933-940.

“There is no known health risk associated with drinking water fluoridated within the recommended levels.”

From ROW website

5-7 times increase in bone cancer in fluoridated communities with young males under 20 years of age. Bassin 2006, NTP 1999.

Dental Fluorosis occurs in 25-70% of children in fluoridated communities. Ont. Min. Health % Long Term Care 1999

Thyroid suppression occurs ingesting as little as 0.7mg/day = 1 liter of water. People consume, on average, 3mg/day. NRC 2006 p218

Hypersensitive health risk individuals (1-4% of population). similar to peanut and penicillin allergies – some people cannot consume any fluoride

Health risk to those who drink large quantities of water. diabetic patients, babies, lactating mothers, athletes, soldiers should not consume fluoride water

Health risk to those with compromised kidneys. babies, kidney patients

“children do not get too much fluoride from fluoridated water or food.”

From ROW website

“In Canada, actual intakes are larger than recommended intakes for formula-fed infants and those living in fluoridated communities. Efforts are required to reduce intakes among the most vulnerable age group, children aged 7 months to 4 years.” Ont. Min. Health 1999

“Where baby formula is used, non-fluoridated water should be used for mixing.” Ontario Ministry of Health 2000

“The most common source of too much fluoride is from swallowing toothpaste.”

ROW website

“for typical individuals, the single most important contributor to fluoride exposures (approaching 50% or more) is fluoridated water and other beverages and foods prepared or manufactured with fluoridated water”. NRC 2006 P 87

Fluoridated water is also the easiest source of fluoride to eliminate.

“Children should spit out well after brushing with fluoridated toothpaste.”

From ROW website

“Children under two years of age do not have control of their swallowing reflex and do not have the skills to expectorate toothpaste properly.”

letter from Melinda Plaisier, Dept of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service to Congressman Ken Calvert, Chairman Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment, Committee on Science, House of Representatives, Dec 21, 2000.

“parents should not use fluoride toothpaste for children less than two years of age.”

ADA Positions & Statements: Interim Guidance on Fluoride Intake for Infants and Young Children. ADA website, NRC 2006 , chapter 2.

“Use non-fluoridated toothpaste or no toothpaste for young children.”

Ont Min Health 2000

“Never give fluoridated mouthwash or mouth rinses to children under six years of age, as they may swallow it.”

Health Canada: Fluorides and Human Health: Updated: September 2005

“Children under six years of age should be supervised while brushing, and children under the age of three should have their teeth brushed by an adult without using any toothpaste.”

Health Canada: Fluorides and Human Health: Updated: September 2005

"Other forms of fluoride can be used to prevent disease (e.g., toothpastes, rinses, supplements)"

ROW website

"We found that fluoride, in the concentration range in which it is used for the prevention of dental caries, stimulates production of prostaglandins and thereby exacerbates the inflammatory response in gingivitis and periodontitis.... Thus, the inclusion of fluoride in toothpastes and mouthwashes for the purpose of inhibiting the development of caries may, at the same time, accelerate the process of chronic, destructive periodontitis."

Aberg G, Jerussi TP, McCullough JR - "NSAID/fluoride periodontal compositions and methods" US Patent: 5,807,541, granted September 15, 1998

Conclusions

A fundamental principle of good scientific methodology provides opportunity for revision of findings, based on new scientific evidence.

Is there a pre-occupation with simply justifying fluoridation as public health policy, rather than directly addressing the ever growing lack of scientific support, environmental consequences, ethical implications and legal violations?

IF SO, WHY ?