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Fluoridation works

Re: **There's no comparison — Dec. 15**

Carole Clinch, the research coordinator for People for Safe Drinking Water in Waterloo, stands on some pretty narrow ground for her stance that fluoridation cannot be claimed to be the cause of any difference in dental caries between communities that fluoridate and those that don't.

Yes, we know that statistical reasoning can never offer certainty of cause and effect: some irreducible probability of error always remains. And yes, we know that most fluoridation studies are based on before-after results rather than the gold standard of randomized control trials. However, over decades of experience with fluoridation, the probability of error has shrunk to bathmat dimensions as a support for her position.

Robert Hudgins

Kitchener

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