

**FFWA**Newsletter  
December 2017**FLUORIDE  
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# Newsletter

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## WA bucking a world trend

In Western Australia the Minister of Health is advised to fluoridate our drinking water by the state's *Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies Advisory Committee* (FPWSAC). FFWA believe it is remarkable that the FPWSAC seems stubbornly determined not only to continue this harmful and archaic practice, but to expand fluoridation in regional towns of WA, despite; 1) a lack of any state legislative requirement to fluoridate; 2) an ongoing lack of consent from the public; 3) significant opposition from local residents; 4) a **substantial and constantly growing** number of international research studies showing a direct link between fluoride and a list of health issues; and 5) a steadily growing trend for de-fluoridation worldwide. (See article on page 4 – What's happening elsewhere?)

The regional towns of Dongara/Port Denison, Moora and Hedland were directed to begin fluoridation last year, while Kununurra, Yanchep and Newman are about to begin fluoridation this month despite great efforts from these communities to prevent this from occurring. The will of the people is regularly and arrogantly ignored. Other regional towns being considered for fluoridation include Bunbury, Margaret River and Carnarvon, with announcements likely to be made soon. These communities continue to campaign against fluoridation.

In Yanchep/Two Rocks and in Kununurra, the Fluoride Free communities have never been stronger, with a number of local businesses also promoting awareness and collecting petition signatures. Of great concern are the many infants and young children in the community who will be uniquely more susceptible to the toxic effects of fluoride. To date the Health Department has not been able to provide a single study on the safety of water fluoridation for children under the age of five years.

## An opportunity to make a difference

Three petitions opposing water fluoridation have been presented to the WA Legislative Council: [Petition 016](#) (Kununurra), [Petition 023](#) (Port Hedland) and [Petition 033](#) (State of WA). More than 800 signatures were collected from the people of Kununurra opposing fluoridation, which equates to around 24 per cent of the town's voters. Meanwhile, the Health Department refuses to consult with the community, instead holding two 'community information' sessions in an attempt to pacify the people. A video of the 'community info' session held on 30 November can be [viewed here](#).

Opponents of water fluoridation in Yanchep have a further petition ready for tabling in early 2018.

Spearheading a coordinated national action, FFWA launched a petition in November seeking repeal of the *Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies Act 1966* (FPWS Act).

### What can you do to make a difference?

- Sign and send the petitions
- Follow/like us on Facebook and share
- Become a member of FFWA
- Donate to FFWA
- Get involved in our range of activities
- Send this newsletter to your friends
- Educate others about the risks and dangers of fluoride
- Help with behind-the-scenes projects

### Become a member

It only costs \$10 to become a member of FFWA. Please visit our website to renew or join.

Fluoride Free WA Inc (FFWA) is a non-profit educational and advocacy organization, focusing on issues of fluoride toxicity and the medical ethics relating to mandatory water fluoridation.

### Donations to FFWA

We depend on your donations. To donate visit: [www.fluoridefreewa.org](http://www.fluoridefreewa.org)



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Repeal of the FPWS Act would end the practice of water fluoridation in WA. The petition is addressed to the WA Legislative Assembly and the target is 1,000 signatures by 28 February 2018.

This petition will draw the Legislative Assembly's attention to the following:

1. The FPWS Act is legally invalid;
2. Water fluoridation does not prevent tooth decay;
3. Water fluoridation is medically dangerous; and
4. The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) makes dangerous recommendations (also see article page 3).

For more details on these four points, **or to sign this WA petition**, [click here](#).

By reaching the target of 1,000 signatures, FFWA will show the Legislative Assembly that many West Australians know that water fluoridation is ineffective, unsafe and legally invalid.

In addition, interstate friends are preparing petitions for the Legislative Assemblies of NSW, Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania to repeal water fluoridation legislation in those States and another related petition is also being prepared for the Federal House of Representatives. These petitions are to be tabled in a coordinated manner during March 2018.

Download the petition forms here:

Western Australia

Other States

Federal

**Please support this action** by printing and signing the petitions and then sending the completed original forms to the postal address on the form, before 28 February 2018. FFWA will then forward completed Federal petition forms to the coordinator of the Federal petition.

***Thanks in advance for your support!***

## International group of dentists issue fluoride warnings

The *International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology* (IAOMT) is a non-profit organization comprising more than 800 dentists, physicians and research professionals, which has been dedicated to its mission of protecting public health since it was founded in 1984.

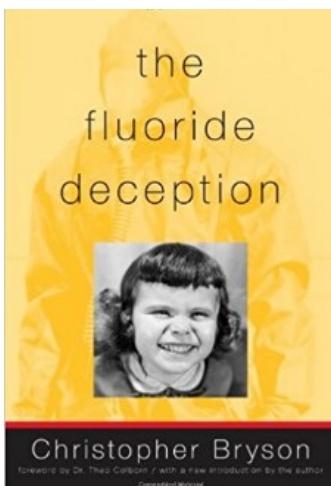
Since that time, the group has continually collected, examined, and reviewed studies and research

articles about fluoride and other dental materials and practices. In its ongoing examination of the toxicological data on fluoride, IAOMT has concluded that fluoride added to the public water supply delivers **no discernible health benefit and causes a higher incidence of adverse health effects**.

The IAOMT recently released its ["Position Paper Against Fluoride Use in Water, Dental Materials and Other Products"](#).

The IAOMT's official position is, given the elevated number of fluoride sources and the increased rates of fluoride intake in the American population, which have risen substantially since water fluoridation began in the 1940's, it has become a necessity to reduce and work toward eliminating avoidable sources of fluoride exposure. This includes water fluoridation, fluoride-containing dental materials, and other fluoridated products.

"Ingesting synthetic fluoride, such as that added to community water, is not only ineffective at reducing tooth decay, but it also exposes our population to a number of toxins," David Kennedy, DDS, lead author of the IAOMT Fluoride Position Paper, cautions. "Exposure to fluoride is suspected of impacting nearly every part of the human body, and the potential for harm has been clearly established in scientific research".



**The Fluoride Deception** unearths the mystery of how a highly-toxic industrial waste product and the most damaging environmental pollutant of the Cold War was added to our drinking water and toothpaste.

The Fluoride Deception reads like a thriller, but one supported by two hundred pages of source notes, years of investigative reporting, scores of scientist interviews, and archival research.

A chronicle of the abuse of power and the manufacture of state-sponsored medical propaganda, the book reveals how military and industry scientists and public health officials buried information about fluoride's potential for harm, while promoting its use in dentistry. Author **Christopher Bryson** is an award-winning investigative journalist and TV producer. [Purchase the book](#) or [DVD](#) or watch a [YouTube video](#).



"American children are already being overdosed with fluoride, as is evidenced by the increase in tooth mottling (fluorosis), which now occurs to some degree in a majority of our youth. The National Research Council determined that many individuals are exceptionally vulnerable to the toxic effects of fluoride. When will people realize that scientific research offers grave warnings about fluoride? Don't we all deserve safe water?"

**"Ingesting synthetic fluoride, such as that added to community water, is not only ineffective at reducing tooth decay, but it also exposes our population to a number of toxins,"**

**David Kennedy, Doctor of Dental Surgery**  
and lead author of the IAOMT Fluoride Position Paper

"For dentistry, as an ethical profession, it is imperative to uphold the concepts of 'do no harm.' Fluoride has traditionally been seen as a panacea for dental disease without the knowledge of its inherent harm to the human body. We need to seek less toxic alternatives and work to improve human health with the safest approach", says Matthew Young, Doctor of Dental Surgery and President of the IAOMT.

## Fluoride exposure in utero linked to lower IQ in kids

For decades fluoride has also been recognised as a neurotoxin, with a number of prominent universities and other scientific bodies conducting significant studies demonstrating the link between long-term ingestion of fluoride and various neurodevelopmental disabilities, including autism, ADHD, dyslexia and other cognitive impairments—especially reduced IQ.

In fact between 1989 and 2017, medical researchers at universities in China, India, Iran and Mexico have published 51 studies indicating that exposure to fluoride lowers IQ in humans. The NHMRC and Australian health departments have long known of these studies but ignored them for culpable reasons. They have stated, for example, that the studies were too old, too new, not published in the English language, or not listed in a particular database of medical literature. Australia's public health authorities will find it more difficult to suppress recent research by Canadian and US medical researchers which confirms Asian and Latin American scholars' earlier findings that fluoride exposure lowers IQ.

In September 2017, publication of a major Canadian-led international study confirmed the many earlier reports that the ingestion of fluoride causes a reduction in children's IQ scores.

The study was conducted by a team of Canadian, US and Mexican scientists and funded by the US National Institute of Health and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences with more than US\$3 million.

The 12-year study tracked 299 mother-child pairs in Mexico City. Depending on study subjects' residential location within the large metropolitan area (population ca. 20 million), they were variously exposed to fluoridated water, fluoridated salt, or no fluoride treatment. To account for the overlapping array of public health fluoridation measures, the researchers assessed fluoride exposure of mother-child pairs by measuring fluoride concentration in maternal urine. Using this approach, the researchers considered also expectant mothers' exposure to fluoride. They found that children exposed to fluoride have significantly lower IQ scores. This research is highly relevant in the Australian public health context because the levels of fluoride exposure considered in the study broadly intersect the range of fluoride concentrations NHMRC and Australian health departments assert is "optimal"

For more info and comments from Chemist and Toxicologist, Professor Paul Connett, PhD, of Fluoride Action Network, [click here](#), or watch a [3-minute video](#) by Professor Connett.

## Fluoride Lowers IQ in Children

Researchers have found that fluoride exposure during pregnancy is linked to significantly reduced IQ in children – "lower scores on tests of cognitive function in the offspring at 4 and 6–12 years old."



## NHMRC's Public Statement "deeply flawed"

On 9 November this year, the *National Health and Medical Research Council* (NHMRC) published its long-awaited [2017 Public Statement](#) – Water Fluoridation and Human Health in Australia. The draft version of this paper was mentioned in FFWA's last





newsletter and FFWA also submitted a paper to NHMRC listing the significant dangers of fluoride. This submission, like many others, was ignored.

Before we make any comments on the official 2017 Public Statement, let's go back a few years and have a look at the summary of NHMRC's [2007 Public Statement](#) – The Efficacy and Safety of Fluoridation. This previous statement “recommended” water fluoridation in the range of 0.6 to 1.1 mg/L as an “effective and socially equitable” method of preventing dental caries.

In contrast, NHMRC's 2017 Public Statement “strongly recommends” water fluoridation in the range of 0.6 to 1.1 mg/L as a “safe, effective and ethical” method of preventing tooth decay. Furthermore, NHMRC now “supports Australian states and territories fluoridating their drinking water supplies”.

FFWA considers this latest recommendation to be fascinating, for several reasons:

1. In response to mounting evidence of the neurotoxic and nephrotoxic risks of exposure to fluoride, especially given the results of significant international studies conducted since 2007 showing the risks associated with the long-term ingestion of fluoride, the NHMRC amplified its claim that fluoride is “safe”;
2. In response to legal pressure exerted upon the Australian and New Zealand governments to acknowledge that fluoridated water constitutes “therapeutic goods and medicine”, NHMRC inserted a claim that water fluoridation is “ethical”;
3. In response to political pressure exerted upon State governments to abandon water fluoridation, NHMRC now “supports” State governments fluoridating public water supplies.

The 2017 Public Statement reveals that NHMRC is becoming less and less concerned about science – and therefore its own credibility – and more concerned about defending its out-dated views, while at the same time acting overtly politically.

In a [media release](#) dated 3 August 2017, Marilyn Haines, a Queensland-based scientist, called for a Royal Commission to investigate the manner in which the NHMRC conducted its review for this Public Statement, claiming that it was not only unprofessional, but unscientific, biased, highly selective, deeply flawed and prevented meaningful scientific and public input.

“In examining the manner in which the panelists

were selected, the way studies were selected and excluded and the very limited opportunities for public participation and independent scientific input, it is hard to come to any other conclusion than that this review was designed simply to defend a long-standing government policy and not to genuinely examine the science (or lack of science) on which it is based”, said Haines. “But this is not the first time this has happened; the NHMRC produced a very poor review in 2007 which received extensive criticism from independent scientists. To produce an even more biased and restrictive review in 2017 is even more egregious in lieu of the new science published or updated since 2007”, added Haines.

In her media release Haines listed [23 specific examples](#) of NHMRC's manipulations. “Many of these by themselves should disqualify the NHMRC 2017 review from serious consideration, but in combination should question the very existence of the NHMRC as a body that can be relied upon by the public and decision-makers to provide objective analysis of government policy”, said Haines.

Here are the first five of the 23 examples:

The NHMRC,

1. Stacked the fluoride review committee with fluoridation lobbyists and advocates.
2. Broke a promise that it would include experts opposed to fluoridation.
3. Secretly commissioned a new study on dental effects (previously listed as “out of scope”), when the 2015 Cochrane Collaboration review didn't deliver a convincing pro-fluoridation position.
4. First, misled about its knowledge of a new thyroid study (Peckham et al., 2015) and then dismissed its findings, reaching a biased and false position that there is no evidence that fluoride interferes with thyroid function.
5. Falsely claimed a low-quality IQ study (Broadbent et al, 2014) was a high-quality study.

To see all 23 examples and read a full copy of this media release, [click here](#).

## What's happening elsewhere?

Since 1990, more than 500 communities world wide have ended existing fluoridation programs or rejected new efforts to fluoridate, either by council vote or citizen referendum. In 2017 alone, at least 17 communities with a combined population of approximately 500,000 voted to prohibit fluoridation. This brings the number of victories since 2010 to at least 236 communities, representing approximately 7 million people.

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A total of 97 per cent of the western European countries have removed or rejected fluoride. This includes: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Northern Ireland, Norway, Portugal, Scotland, Sweden, Switzerland, and approximately 90 per cent of both the United Kingdom and Spain.

And yet tooth decay rates have declined in Europe as precipitously over the past 50 years as they have in the United States. This raises serious questions about the Centre for Disease Control's assertion that the decline of tooth decay in the United States since the 1950s is largely attributable to the advent of water fluoridation.

According to a study of European public opinion on water fluoridation, the "vast majority of people opposed water fluoridation". Many people felt that dental health was an issue to be dealt with at the level of the individual, rather than a solution of unproved safety imposed on them by public health authorities whom they did not fully trust. "They did not see why they should accept potential side effects in order that a minority may benefit. In particular, water was something that should be kept as pure as possible, even though it was recognized that it already contains many additives", said the report.

Following are comments from several of the European countries rejecting fluoride:



**Austria:** "Toxic fluorides have never been added to the public water supplies in Austria."



**Belgium:** "This water treatment has never been of use in Belgium and will never be (we hope so) into the future. The main reason for that is the fundamental position of the drinking water sector that it is not its task to deliver medicinal treatment to people. This is the sole responsibility of health services."



**Denmark:** "We are pleased to inform you that according to the Danish Ministry of Environment and Energy, toxic fluorides have never been added to the public water supplies. Consequently, no Danish city has ever been fluoridated."



**France:** "Fluoride chemicals are not included in the list [of 'chemicals for drinking water treatment']. This is due to ethical as well as medical considerations."



**Germany:** "Generally, in Germany fluoridation of drinking water is forbidden. The relevant German law allows exceptions to the fluoridation ban on application. The argumentation of the Federal Ministry of Health against a general permission of fluoridation of drinking water is the problematic

nature of compul[sory] medication."



**Norway:** "In Norway we had a rather intense discussion on this subject some 20 years ago, and the conclusion was that drinking water should not be fluoridated."



**Sweden:** "Drinking water fluoridation is not allowed in Sweden...New scientific documentation or changes in dental health situation that could alter the conclusions of the Commission have not been shown."



**Czech Republic:** "Although fluoridation of drinking water has not actually been prescribed it is not under consideration because this form of supplementation is considered: uneconomical, unecological, unethical ("forced medication") and toxicologically and physiologically debatable.

FFWA is seeking a **Membership Coordinator** to join the team on a voluntary basis. Our new MC would be organized, professional and have at least intermediate computer/MS Office skills. Availability is flexible; approximately 1—2 hrs per week. For more details please [contact the Secretary](#).


## Big year ahead for new committee

FFWA has a new management committee:

President:	Andrew Parry
Vice President & Secretary:	Hayley Green
Vice President Regional:	Anne Porter
Vice President & Treasurer:	John Watt
Committee Member:	Chris Newman
Committee Member:	Philip Strahan

We have many plans for 2018 and we look forward to your help and support to achieve the goal of having fluoride removed from our drinking water.

## With your help we can end fluoridation!

The first step is to follow and like us on Facebook by clicking the  icon below and then share our page with your contacts.

**Fluoride Free WA Inc.**

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