

# Fluoridation Update: 2014 (still safe, effective, and inexpensive)

By Kurt Ferre DDS

OPHA annual meeting, Corvallis, OR

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# Fluoridation Vote Results

- 26-151 - City of Portland Vote  
Yes . . . 64,728 = 39.40 %  
No. . . . 99,573 = 60.60 %
- 42% of registered voters actually voted
- There are 391,193 registered voters
- 25% of registered voters decided outcome
- 226,892 voters didn't care to vote.

# Fluoridation PTSD



# 3 Key Observations

- It's much easier to scare the public than to un-scare the public.
- The support for fluoridation is a mile wide, but the passion is an inch deep while the opposition support is an inch wide,.....
- Our belief system is a product of our life experiences and leads to our own confirmation biases.

# Successful Defenses of Fluoridation

- Since October, 2010, these cities have retained fluoridation: Keizer, McMinnville, Lewiston, ID, Bethel, AK, Bozeman, MT, Philomath, and Scappoose.
- Since the May 2013 election, The Dalles, OR and Sweet Home, OR (June 2014) have successfully overcome challenges to their fluoridation programs.
- There have been anti activity in the fluoridated cities of Lebanon, Albany, and Silverton

# True opponents will never change



“The good thing about science is that it’s true whether or not you believe in it.”

Neil Degrass Tyson, PhD

# The Weight of Science



Society of American Indian Dentists



American Academy of Family Practice

American Pharmacists Association



MAYO CLINIC



ADA



World Health Organization



HDA  
HISPANIC DENTAL ASSOCIATION

American Association of Public Health Dentistry

E.A.P.D

European Academy of Paediatric Dentistry

100+ Organizations recognize fluoridation's benefit

No widely respected medical and health organizations oppose fluoridation

life is better  
**WITH TEETH**

# Expanding the Dental Team



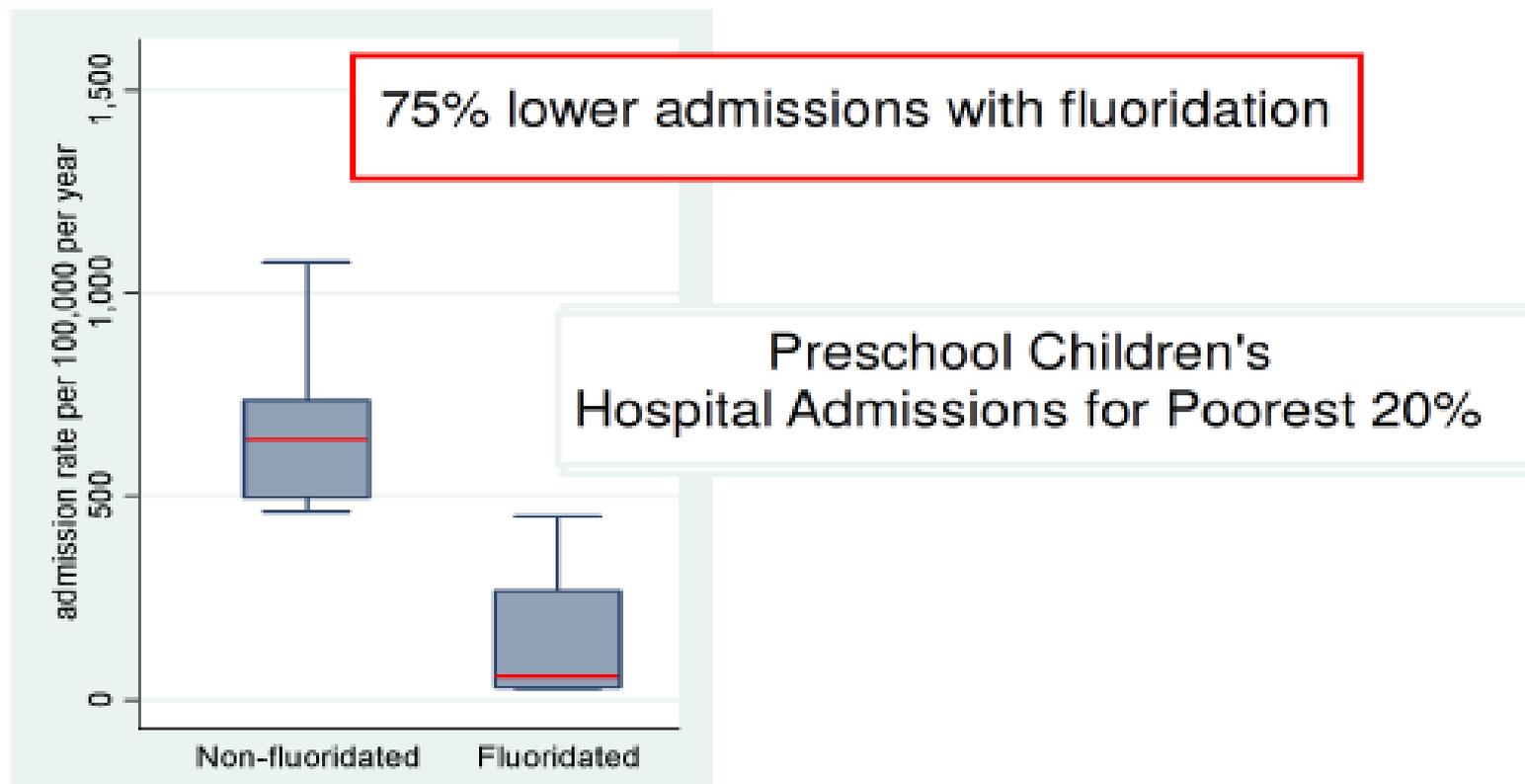
Championed by the Oregon Oral Health Coalition's (OROHC) Early Childhood Cavities Prevention Committee (ECCP) launched a 3-year workforce development project in 2009 called "First Tooth" with a goal to reduce early childhood caries in Oregon

# U.S. Preventative Sx. Task Force

- Goal: prevention of cavities from birth to 5 y/o
- Services provided by primary care clinicians
- 2 recommendations:
  - 1) Rx fluoride supplements beginning @ 6 mo.  
(where water is deficient in fluoride)
  - 2) Apply fluoride varnish when 1<sup>st</sup> baby teeth erupt



# Water fluoridation Health monitoring report for England 2014



# CWF and Intelligence Study

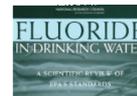
- Subjects born 1972/73 comparing IQ for those born/raised in fluoridated area vs. non-fluoridated area.
- No significant differences in IQ
- Findings do not support the assertion that fluoride in the context of CWF programs is neurotoxic.

# Systematic Reviews of CWF

## Systematic Evidence Based Reviews



2011 California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment  
Carcinogen Identification Committee



2006 Fluoride in Drinking Water: a scientific review of EPA's standards. National Research Council



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

2011 Critical review of any new evidence on the hazard profile, health effects, and human exposure to fluoride and the fluoridating agents of drinking water. European Scientific Committee on Health and Environmental Risks



2001 Recommendations for Using Fluoride to Prevent and Control Dental Caries in the United States. MMWR, August 17, 2001;50

2001 Task Force on Community Preventive Services, MMWR, November 30, 2001;50



2008 A systematic review of the efficacy and safety of fluoridation. Department of Public Health, Scotland, UK



2000 A Systematic Review of Public Water Fluoridation University of York (UK)



2007 A systematic review of the efficacy and safety of fluoridation National Health and Research Council, Australia



1991 Review Of Fluoride: Benefits And Risks U.S. Public Health Service

# Health effects of water fluoridation

“The review finds compelling evidence that fluoridation of the water at the established and recommended levels produces broad and continuing benefits for the dental health of New Zealanders. The public can be reassured on the basis of robust scientific data, that the implementation of this public health measure poses no risk of adverse health effects.”

## **Water fluoridation protects teeth in two ways:**

- When delivered through the water supply to children during the tooth forming years.**
- Through direct contact with teeth throughout life.**

# Systemic effects of fluoridation

## “Systemic effect of water fluoridation on dental caries prevalence”

- Comparing 11 y/o in 2 Korean now non-fluoridated communities
- One was fluoridated until 7 years ago.
- Those who ingested fluoridated water for 4 years after birth showed significantly lower DMFT (Decayed, Missing, Filled Teeth)

# Strategic Plan for Oral Health in Oregon: 2014-2020



# F Yeah !



# Fluoridation Websites

- [www.ilikemyteeth.org](http://www.ilikemyteeth.org)
- [www.cdc.gov/fluoridation](http://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation)
- [www.ada.org/sections/newsAndEvents/pdfs/fluoridation\\_facts.pdf](http://www.ada.org/sections/newsAndEvents/pdfs/fluoridation_facts.pdf)
- [www.fluoridescience.org](http://www.fluoridescience.org)
- Please “like” Campaign for Dental Health on Facebook.