



Wisconsin Chapter | POSITION STATEMENT | FLUORIDATED WATER

WIAAP

563 Carter Court, Suite B
Kimberly, WI 54136
Phone: 262.490.9075
E-mail: KLaBracke@wiaap.org

Chapter Officers

President

James A. Meyer, MD, FAAP
Department of Pediatrics
Marshfield Clinic
Adolescent Section
1000 North Oak Avenue
Marshfield, WI 54449
Phone: 715.387.5240
E-mail:
meyer.james@marshfieldclinic.org

Vice President

Jeffrey W. Britton MD, FAAP
2414 Kohler Memorial Drive
Sheboygan, WI 53081-3129
Phone: 920.457.4461
E-mail: jeffrey.w.britton@aurora.org

Secretary/Treasurer

Mala Mathur, MD, MPH, FAAP
1321 Redan Drive
Verona, WI 53593-7820
Phone: 608.497.0441
Fax: 000/000-0000
E-mail: mmathur@charter.net

Chapter Executive Director

Kia K. LaBracke
563 Carter Court, Suite B
Kimberly, WI 54136
Phone: 262.490.9075
E-mail: KLaBracke@wiaap.org

Immediate Past President

Jeffrey H. Lamont, MD, FAAP
Department of Pediatrics
Marshfield Clinic, Wausau Center
2727 Plaza Drive
Wausau, WI 54401
Phone: 715.847.3575
E-mail:
lamont.jeffrey@marshfieldclinic.org

Chapter Web Site

www.wiaap.org

AAP Headquarters

141 Northwest Point Blvd
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007-1019
Phone: 847/434-4000
Fax: 847/434-8000
E-mail: kidsdocs@aap.org
www.aap.org

Background:

Water fluoridation is a community-based intervention that optimizes the level of fluoride in drinking water, resulting in protection of the teeth before and after eruption. There is emerging opposition to the practice of community water fluoridation, unsupported by scientific evidence. The possibility of banning fluoridation of community water supplies poses a significant threat to the public health of the citizens of Wisconsin.

Rationale:

Water fluoridation is an economical means of reducing tooth decay by 20-40%. For 65 years, community water fluoridation has been a safe and healthy way to effectively prevent tooth decay. The estimated cost savings is clear. The lifetime cost per person equals less than the cost of one dental restoration. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has proclaimed the practice one of the 10 greatest public health achievements of the 20th century, along with greater use of vaccines and recognition of tobacco as a health hazard.

Currently more than 204 million people in the United States are served by community water supplies containing enough fluoride to protect teeth.

The American Academy of Pediatrics' Bright Futures standards recommend children drinking **community-fluoridated** water by the age of six (6) months.

There is **no study nor evidence** to demonstrate health problems associated with the intake of optimally fluoridated water. Drinking fluoridated water is safe.

An untreated community water supply does not provide the protective oral health upon which people in Wisconsin have benefitted for decades.

Every \$1 invested in water fluoridation saves a community approximately \$38 in future dental treatment costs.

Therefore, the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics opposes any efforts to eliminate fluoridation of community-based water supply.

REFERENCES:

[1] Preventative Oral Health Interventions for Pediatricians. *Pediatrics*, Vol. 122 No. 6 December 1, 2008, pp. 1387-1394.

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/122/6/1387.full>

[2] American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. Position Statement: Policy on Use of Fluoride. Reference manual Volume 33, No. 6, pp. 40-41.

http://www.aapd.org/media/Policies_Guidelines/P_FluorideUse.pdf

[3] American Dental Association. Policy Statements: Flouridation of Water Supplies (Trans. 1950:224) and Operational Policies and Recommendations Regarding Community Water Flouridation (Trans.1997:673)

<http://www.ada.org/4045.aspx>

[4] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Community Water Flouridation Questions and Answers.

http://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/fact_sheets/cwf_qa.htm

[5] American Academy of Pediatrics. Policy Statement: Preventive Oral Health Intervention for Pediatricians. *Pediatrics*, 2008;122:1387-1394.

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/122/6/1387.full>

[6] American Academy Bright Futures Guidelines for Health Supervision of Infants, Children, and Adolescents Promoting Oral Health, 2008

http://brightfutures.aap.org/pdfs/Guidelines_PDF/1-BF-Introduction.pdf

[7] The Pew Charitable Trusts: The State of Children's Dental Health: Making Coverage Matter.

<http://www.pewstates.org/research/reports/the-state-of-childrens-dental-health-85899372955#factsheets>

[8] Association of State and Territorial Health Officials. Position Statement: Community Water Flouridation, 2009.

<http://www.astho.org/Display/AssetDisplay.aspx?id=147>