

## CDHA POSITION STATEMENT: COMMUNITY WATER FLUORIDATION

On September 29, 2011, the Canadian Dental Hygienists Association (CDHA) Board of Directors endorsed the 2011 *Position Statement on Community Water Fluoridation*.

The CDHA:

- Endorses the use of fluoride as an important oral health promotion and disease prevention approach;
- Recommends that water fluoridation be maintained and extended to additional communities where feasible;
- Encourages ongoing fluoridation research in the following areas:
  - ✓ Developing methods for determining the optimal fluoride concentration in community drinking water, which takes into account other sources of fluoride from air, food, and dental products. Currently this concentration is set at .7 ml/litre in Canada
  - ✓ High quality water fluoridation efficacy studies
  - ✓ Developing recommendations for caries prevention and control using various combinations of fluoride modalities
- Recommends that information be made available to the public on the sources and quality of fluoride used in oral health products and water supplies.

This position is supported by recent position statements, and reports from the following organizations and groups:

- Health Canada<sup>1</sup>
- Canadian Public Health Association<sup>2</sup>
- Canadian Association for Public Health Dentistry<sup>3</sup>
- Association of Local Public Health Agencies<sup>4</sup>
- Canadian Dental Association<sup>5</sup>
- Canadian Medical Association<sup>6</sup>
- World Health Organization<sup>7</sup>
- FDI World Dental Federation<sup>8</sup>
- American Dental Hygienists Association<sup>9</sup>
- American Dental Association<sup>10</sup>
- Center for Disease Control<sup>11</sup>
- American Public Health Association<sup>12</sup>
- US Department of Health and Human Service and the Environmental Protection Agency<sup>13</sup>
- National Health And Research Council (USA)<sup>14</sup>
- Health Canada: Federal-Provincial-Territorial Committee on Drinking Water 2009, "Fluoride in Drinking Water"<sup>15</sup>
- Australian Government National Health and Medical Research Council 2007 "A Systematic Review of the Efficacy and Safety of Fluoride"<sup>16</sup>

### References

1. Health Canada. *Fluoride and Human Health*. 2010. <http://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/safety.htm>
2. Canadian Public Health Association. *Fighting the Good Fight: Fluoridation of Drinking Water 2011*: <http://cpha100.ca/12-great-achievements>
3. Canadian Association of Public Health Dentistry. *Water Fluoridation Position Statement 2003*. <http://www.caphd.ca/advocacy/position-statements>.

4. Association for Local Public Health Agencies. Resolution: Fluoridation of Drinking Water 2011 [http://www.alphaweb.org/dental\\_health.asp](http://www.alphaweb.org/dental_health.asp)
5. Canadian Dental Association. *CDA Position on Use of Fluorides in Caries Prevention* 2008. [www.cda-adc.ca/files/position.../Fluorides-English-2010-06-08.pdf](http://www.cda-adc.ca/files/position.../Fluorides-English-2010-06-08.pdf)
6. The Canadian Medical Association. Policy resolution GC77-27 - Fluoridation Status; Last Reviewed 2011 <http://www.cma.ca/policybase>
7. World Health Organization. *Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality* 2011. [http://www.who.int/oral\\_health/media/en/orh\\_report03\\_en.pdf](http://www.who.int/oral_health/media/en/orh_report03_en.pdf)
8. World Dental Federation (FDI). *Promoting Dental Health through Water Fluoridation* 2008 <http://www.fdiworldental.org/content/oral-health-through-fluoride>
9. American Dental Hygienists' Association. *Major Functions of Public Health have been Defined* 2011 <http://www.adha.org/publichealth/index.html>
10. American Dental Association. *Fluoride and Fluoridation* 2010 <http://www.ada.org/public/topics/fluoride/index.asp>
11. Center for Disease Control. *Community Water Fluoridation* 2011 [http://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/fact\\_sheets](http://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/fact_sheets)
12. American Public Health Association. *Community Water Fluoridation in the United States*. 2008 <http://www.apha.org/advocacy/policy/policysearch/default.htm>
13. US Department of Health and Human Service and the Environmental Protection Agency. *HHS and EPA announce new scientific assessments and actions on fluoride* 2011. [www.hhs.gov/news/press/2011pres/01/20110107a.html](http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2011pres/01/20110107a.html)
14. National Health and Medical Research Council. *The Efficacy and Safety of Fluoridation* 2007 [www.alphaweb.org/files/nhmrc/eh41%5B1%5D.pdf](http://www.alphaweb.org/files/nhmrc/eh41%5B1%5D.pdf)
15. Health Canada. Federal-Provincial-Territorial Committee on Drinking Water Technical Document. *Fluoride in Drinking Water* 2009 <http://www.docstoc.com/docs/68234139/Fluoride-in-Drinking-Water>
16. National Health and Medical Research Council. *A Systematic Review of the Efficacy and Safety of Fluoride* 2007 [www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines/publications/eh41a](http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines/publications/eh41a)