



# NATIONAL HEALTH FEDERATION

A NOT-FOR-PROFIT HEALTH-FREEDOM ORGANIZATION

May 5, 2009

BY E-MAIL TO [coshita@oehha.ca.gov](mailto:coshita@oehha.ca.gov)

Ms. Cynthia Oshita  
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment  
Proposition 65 Implementation  
P.O. Box 4010 1001 I Street, 19th Floor  
Sacramento, California 95812-4010

Re: **CIC Members** (OEHHA) - National Health Federation Comments on Fluoride Salts

Dear Ms. Oshita:

The National Health Federation was established in 1955, and is a non-profit, international consumer-education, health-freedom organization working to protect individuals' rights to choose healthy food, safe water, take supplements, and use alternative therapies without government restrictions. We have specifically fought for many decades against the use of fluoride and continue to fight this battle to this day.

We understand that your specific focus at this time pertains to fluoride and its salts, and the negative health effects upon the general populace associated with the incorporation into the municipal water supply. We feel strongly that fluoride and its salts should definitely be added to the Proposition 65 list of chemicals. Through our many years of being attentive to the fluoride issue, the studies (many of them quite current) that specifically target fluoride and its salts to osteosarcoma (one of the worst bone cancers), the continuous mandatory assault on the general public of this harmful chemical additive to the water, toothpaste, and the like, we cannot imagine that there would even be a debate on this issue, as we feel this should have been added to your list years ago.

## **A Sampling of Studies Confirming the Carcinogenic Properties of Fluoride**

Fluoride has repeatedly been shown to be a carcinogen in cell cultures, animals and humans. In 1956, Dr. John Chaffey, a professor of clinical pediatrics at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, found cortical defects in the bone x-rays of 13.5% of the children living in fluoridated Newburgh, New York, compared to only 7.5% in the neighboring nonfluoridated town of Kingston. He also noted that the lesions were strikingly similar to osteosarcoma. Studies have now confirmed a dramatic increase in osteosarcoma (bone cancer) in young males exposed to fluoride during growth of their bones as well as a 5% increase in all types of cancers in fluoridated communities." (See <http://emporium.turnpike.net/P/PDHA/fluoride/blunder.htm>)

Later, in 1977, epidemiological studies conducted by Dr. Dean Burk, the former head of the Cytochemistry Section of the National Cancer Institute, and Dr. John Yiamouyiannis, a biochemist, tied fluoridation to at least 10,000 excess cancer deaths a year. These deaths were the focus of full-scale Congressional hearings into the matter. (See "Fluoridation and Cancer-Age-Dependence of Cancer Mortality Related to Artificial Fluoridation," *Fluoride*, Vol. 10, No. 3, p. 102-123, July 1977)

As a result, Congress ordered animal studies to determine whether fluoride causes cancer under laboratory conditions. The U.S. Public Health Service conducted these tests as the National Toxicology Program, with oral, liver, and bone cancer receiving special attention. The results were released in 1990 and revealed that fluoride is a

carcinogen. Not only did precancerous changes occur in the animals' oral squamous cells as a result of increasing levels of fluoride in their drinking water, but there was an increase of tumors and cancers in these cells, a rare form of bone cancer (osteosarcoma) occurred only in animals given fluoride in their drinking water, there was an increase in the incidence of thyroid follicular cell tumors, and a rare form of liver cancer (hepatocholangiocarcinoma) occurred in animals given fluoride in their drinking water.

Importantly, Dr. Melvin Reuber, an independent pathologist formerly with the National Cancer Institute, was the first to describe the rare form of liver cancer found in this fluoride/cancer study among male and female mice. Dr. Reuber concurred with the pathologist at the Battelle Memorial Laboratory that this liver cancer was causally related to the fluoride.

In 1991, Robert N. Hoover and, the following year in 1992, P. D. Cohn reported an increase in osteosarcoma in young men under 20, with the highest incidence occurring in fluoridated areas. (See 1992 New Jersey Department of Health study showing osteosarcoma rates higher among young males in fluoridated versus nonfluoridated regions of New Jersey)

And after conducting a regression analysis of cancer-incidence rates and water fluoride in the United States based upon World Health Organization data (IACR/IARC, 1978-1992), researcher Kosei Takahashi and his colleagues urged researchers worldwide to "further assess fluoride as a genetic cause of cancers." (See *Journal of Epidemiology*, 2001)

The evidence linking fluoridated water to osteosarcoma is substantial. Blood fluoride levels were significantly higher in patients with osteosarcoma than in control groups, according to research published in *Biological Trace Element Research* (April 2009). Osteosarcoma, a rare bone cancer, occurs mostly in children and young adults. This reinforces a 2006 published Harvard study by Bassin showing a link between water fluoridation and osteosarcoma in young boys. (See "Age-specific fluoride exposure in drinking water and osteosarcoma (United States)," *Cancer Causes Control* by Bassin et al., May 2006)

In 2005, eleven Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) employee unions, representing over 7000 environmental and public health professionals, were concerned enough to ask EPA management to recognize fluoride as posing a serious risk of causing cancer in people. This position was supported in 2006 by the prestigious National Research Council, which in its review of fluoride and fluoridation toxicology found a fluoride/bone cancer link plausible.

## Conclusion

As you can easily see from this quick sampling of the existing scientific literature, the fluoride and cancer correlation has been documented since at least the mid-1950s, in the United States as well as in many other countries. The data is factual; and many research studies on humans and laboratory mice and rats have been conducted, all deducing the specific link between fluoride and cancer.

We ask that you do your duty and protect citizens from this overexposure to a cancer causing chemical by including fluoride and its salts on the Proposition 65 list of cancer-causing chemicals. Please advise us of any action taken by your Committee on this matter. Thank you.

Kindest regards,

/Scott C. Tips/

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