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To: <coshita@oehha.ca.gov>
Date: 9/7/2011 12:06 PM
Subject: Comments about Public Water Fluoridation

Hello Ms. Oshita,

I am sorry to be late in submitting my comments about the issue of fluoride toxicity; I first heard about the comment period today. I decided that it would be worth still sending an email, just in case it would still hold any weight on this very important issue.

Fluoride is a hazardous, neurotoxic, and potentially tumorigenic chemical, according to many studies by credible organizations, including the EPA and the U.S. National Research Council. Though small amounts of it can be beneficial to the prevention of tooth decay when applied topically, there is no reason to not add it to the list of chemicals that should not be present in our drinking water. I do not believe that adding fluoride to the public water supply is an appropriate means of its dispersal. It should be up to each individual person to decide if they want to be exposed to this chemical and in what amounts. When fluoride is added to the public water supply, avoiding exposure to it is nearly impossible, as most water filters do not eliminate it. Also, fluoride causes gastrointestinal distress in larger doses and can be lethal, so imagine how catastrophic it would be if too much leaked into the water supply?

The American Dental Association recommends that children under the age of 2 do not use fluoridated toothpaste because they may swallow it, but if a child ingests it by means of drinking water and other beverages made with fluoridated water, why would that be considered any different? The argument that the amount of fluoride added to water supplies is much smaller doesn't hold much ground, considering that fluoride bioaccumulates in your body, and the more water you drink, the greater your exposure. Since it is not something that is easy to regulate intake of and not easy to rid your body of, it should be something that individuals can decide if they would like to be exposed to. Also, the main argument for adding fluoride to the water supply (to benefit the health of children's teeth) has never been validated, and the CDC acknowledges that it has little effect on teeth when ingested and recommends topical exposure of fluoride for teeth instead.

Please do not let this hazardous chemical that has been largely untested and is not approved by the FDA to continue to be distributed to the masses without their choice. There hasn't been any proven benefit to added fluoride to the water supply, and then consequences of doing so could potentially be harmful to millions of Americans. As an American, I would expect to be able to have a choice in this matter, and on a basic human level, would appreciate being treated better than this.

Thank you,

Teal Zeisler
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