

Appendix 9

a) PHE letter

b) Health Canada letter

a) Freedom of Information request to PHE by Joy Warren, requesting if there were any studies proving that fluoride was safe to ingest. Their response below, is that no studies could be found.

Public Accountability Unit

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Joy Warren

request-467681-fe02f892@whatdotheyknow.com

Our ref: 27/02/lh/914

20 March 2018

Dear Miss Warren

Re: water fluoridation

Thank you for your email dated 27 February 2018. Your request for information has been handled under the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR).

You asked:

Please provide me with the abstracts and author details of Randomised Controlled Trials and Cohort Studies which have been undertaken which have conclusively shown that the practice of water fluoridation when using hexafluorosilicic acid and disodium fluorosilicate is safe for humans. Please do not send me information relating to Systematic Reviews or information from the other levels of the Evidence Pyramid as used by the NHS in 2013 in its publication <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/.../tis-guide-finding-the-evidence-07nov.pdf>

Note that I have a full library of information relating to water fluoridation including details of the early USA fluoride trials when sodium fluoride was used. However, my library is lacking in information which proves safety when hexafluorosilicic acid and disodium fluorosilicate are used in water fluoridation programmes in the UK.

Public Health England does not hold the requested information.

Details of the British Standards applying to the fluoride materials used in water fluoridation are contained in the Drinking Water Inspectorate's (2106) 'Code of Practice on Technical Aspects of Fluoridation of Water Supplies 2016' which can be accessed at: <http://dwi-content.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/03135356/Code-of-Practice-on-technical-aspects-of-Fluoridation-of-water-supplies-2016.pdf> [We were supplied with another URL which doesn't work now: <http://dwi.defra.gov.uk/stakeholders/information-letters/2016/01-2016-annexa.pdf>]

If you have any queries regarding the information that has been supplied to you, please refer your query to me in writing in the first instance. If you remain dissatisfied and would like to request an internal review, then please contact us at the address above or by emailing foi@phe.gov.uk

Please note that you have the right to an independent review by the Information Commissioner's Office if a complaint cannot be resolved through the PHE complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner's Office can be contacted by writing to Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

FOI team

b) Freedom of Information request to Health Canada by Ms David, asking if there were any studies to prove that fluoride is safe to swallow – no such evidence could be found – the response from Health Canada see below;

Both organisations, Health Canada and Public Health England, sponsor WF but cannot provide high-quality research which proves that swallowing fluoride is safe.

References

Health Canada (2014), Access to Information Request A-2014-00168

<https://www.fluoridefreepeel.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Health-Canada-FOI-Response-Letter-June2014.pdf>

Public Health England (2018).

https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/research_proving_the_safety_of_w#outgoing-748683