Fluoride and NTP

Sept 29, 2020

Steve – Below is a press release we’d like to do for the Spokane campaign and we were hoping you’d agree to be quoted. Can you take a look at this, especially the last two paragraphs, and see if it’s ok with you? Of course, any final wording attributed to you would be up to you to decide upon, so if you need to revise it, that’s fine. Can you let me know? We hope to get this out tomorrow, if possible. Thanks –

Rick

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The National Toxicology Program (NTP) has reiterated its conclusion that fluoride is “presumed to be a cognitive neurodevelopmental hazard to humans,” i.e. can cause brain damage in fetuses and young children, especially lowered IQs.

NTP’s 309-page report, published last week, is in draft form and will be submitted to a National Academy of Sciences (NAS) committee for further review. But it’s the second draft drawing the same conclusion, which is highly unlikely to be changed.

Jeff Irish, Safe Water Spokane ([www.safewaterspokane.org](http://www.safewaterspokane.org)) chair, said “This is yet more scientific evidence that fluoridation chemicals are dangerous and should not be added to Spokane’s water. The steps approved by the city council to start this process should be suspended immediately in light of this report.”

The hazard finding is based on a review of 92 human studies that show “a consistent and robust pattern . . .  across several different populations demonstrating that higher fluoride exposure (e.g., >1.5 mg/L in drinking water) is associated with lower IQ and other cognitive effects in children.”

Water is typically fluoridated at 0.7 mg/L (equivalent to parts per million, ppm). At that level, the report said the “effects on cognitive neurodevelopment are inconsistent, and therefore unclear.” It’s surprising how NTP came to this less definitive conclusion, since the six strongest studies it identified at 0.7 ppm all showed adverse neurotoxic effects on children. But at the very least, NTP’s wording is a direct contradiction to the claim that there is a consensus that fluoridation is safe for everyone.

Even at 1.5 ppm, the risks are clear. There is great variability among the population on resistance to toxins. Standard toxicological practice maintains that definite harm found at one level should be divided by at least 10 to protect more vulnerable sub-populations, such as pregnant women and children. Therefore, fluoride in water should be no higher than 0.15 ppm, much lower than the 0.7 ppm fluoridation level.

Toxicologist Steve Gilbert, PhD, author of the e-book “A Small Dose of Toxicology” and director of the Institute of Neurotoxicology & Neurological Disorders, said “This determination of hazard by NTP is another in a long line of studies over the past three decades that have found that fluoride causes neurotoxicity. The science clearly indicates that water fluoridation should be ended as soon as possible.”