

Fox, Malcolm

From: Daryl Gotham [gothamd@michigan.gov]
To: Fox, Malcolm
Cc:
Subject: Fwd: Fluoridation Information From CDC
Attachments:

Sent: Wed 1/3/2007 7:55 AM

Malcolm,

Sorry about the delay on responding to this issue. Here is the latest response and I'll forward the others along shortly.

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>>> Pat Cook 12/28/2006 3:47 PM >>>

Some additional information pertaining to FL and infant formula from ASDWA.

pat

>>> "Osterhoudt, Darrell" <dosterhoudt@asdwa.org> 12/26/06 11:32 AM
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Good morning State Drinking Water Administrators:

From time to time, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) becomes aware of issues related to water fluoridation. They pass that information along to us and other drinking water industry groups so our members will be aware and have resources for answering questions from the public. Right now, there is a campaign by fluoridation opponents to write letters to water systems about infant formula. The CDC has provided the following information on this topic.

Water fluoridation of community drinking water has been practiced in the U.S. for more than 60 years. It is accepted as a safe, healthy, and effective public health practice for people of all ages, and the past five Surgeons General have recommended communities fluoridate their water to prevent tooth decay. This information is being provided to water utility organizations to assist them in addressing recent questions from consumers about use of fluoridated drinking water and infant formula. This issue was raised by a recent interim statement by the American Dental Association (ADA). The issue is that some infants who are fed mainly powdered formula reconstituted with fluoridated tap water may be consuming fluoride at the level that could increase the potential for very mild or mild enamel fluorosis. Enamel fluorosis is a cosmetic condition and is not an adverse health effect, and many consumers are unaware of having very mild or mild fluorosis. Infants consume a large volume of fluid when breast milk or formula are their only source of nutrition. The ADA interim statement recommends that parents of infants whose main source of nutrition is formula mixed from powder or liquid concentrate should consider using water that is low in fluoride for mixing formula. The full statement is available at http://www.ada.org/prof/resources/positions/statements/fluoride_infants.asp
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 asp
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http://www.ada.org/prof/resources/positions/statements/fluoride_infants

.asp> .

Most infants consume breast milk or a combination of breast milk, formula, and solid food. For such children in fluoridated communities, fluoride exposure typically would not exceed recommended levels to limit enamel fluorosis. If a family lives in community with water fluoride content exceeding 0.7 mg/L (natural or adjusted), and that family feeds an infant exclusively powdered formula reconstituted with tap water, then the exposure could exceed the recommended upper limit of fluoride exposure and the potential for enamel fluorosis may increase. Information on enamel fluorosis and water fluoridation can be found on the CDC Webpage at <http://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/index.htm> < <http://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/index.htm> > . To better inform parents and caregivers, additional information on the use of fluoridated drinking water in infant formula can be found at http://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/safety/infant_formula.htm < http://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/safety/infant_formula.htm > . Historically, a low prevalence of the milder forms of enamel fluorosis has been accepted as a reasonable and minor consequence balanced against the substantial protection from tooth decay from drinking water containing an optimal concentration of fluoride. CDC will continue to assess the science regarding the use of fluoride in preventing tooth decay while limiting enamel fluorosis and will modify its recommendations if new information shows that a change is appropriate. CDC believes that community water fluoridation is safe and healthy and promotes its use for people of all ages.

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