

## Arsenic in my Fluoride? CDC admits Yes

Date: 03-16-2007 07:19 PM CET

Category: [Health & Medicine](#)

Press release from: [New York State Coalition Opposed to Fluoridation, Inc](#)

New York – March 2007 -- Trace amounts of arsenic are found in fluoride chemicals added to drinking water supplies, reports the U.S. Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) website. (1)

Fluoridation is a controversial attempt to reduce tooth decay in tap-water consumers.

Fluoridation chemicals - sodium fluoride, sodium fluorosilicate, and fluorosilicic acid (FSA) – are all derived from the manufacture of phosphate fertilizer, reports the CDC. Trace amounts of unwanted contaminants, such as antimony, barium, beryllium, arsenic and others, are allowed to remain in fluoridation chemicals before flowing through America's faucets (2)

The CDC reports, tests by National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) revealed arsenic was present in sample batches of FSA. When trace amounts were present, the treated water had an average of 0.43 parts per billion (ppb) of arsenic, with a high of 1.66 ppb attributable to the fluoride additive. (2)

The NSF sets the allowable level of arsenic in fluoridation chemicals at 2.5 ppb. The maximum contaminant level (MCL) of arsenic in treated water is 10 ppb, set by the Environmental Protection Agency. But the maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG) of arsenic in drinking water is zero (5) and is based on health risks; however, the actual level permitted (MCL) is above 0, to account for difficulty in removing it or in measuring it. (6)

“No water company should purposely be adding arsenic to water supplies –even when it's attached to a chemical perceived to be beneficial,” says Beeber.

Trace levels of arsenic in drinking water increase a person's risk of developing cancer, according to a report from the prestigious US National Academy of Sciences. “People drinking water containing just one part per billion of arsenic have an increased risk of developing bladder or lung cancer of one in 1,000,” reports New Scientist magazine. (3)

In an analysis of 25 states, the National Resources Defense Council found about 8,000 U.S. water systems, serving 57,000,000 people, contained arsenic levels at 1 ppb or higher.(4)

“Fluoridation has proven useless in fighting tooth decay in America's low-income population as the recent unfortunate ‘tooth-decay’ death of a 12-year-old Maryland boy living in a fluoridated area has proven,” says lawyer Paul Beeber, President, New York State Coalition Opposed to Fluoridation. “No child is or ever was fluoride-deficient. But many are dentist-deficient,” says Beeber.

“Besides, modern science establishes that fluoridation is ineffective at reducing tooth decay, harmful to health and a waste of taxpayer money,” says Beeber.

"We're glad the CDC finally admits that arsenic can be found in fluoridation chemicals. But CDC should go further and list all undesirable chemicals and impurities allowed in the fluoridation chemicals, and make it publicly known so consumers truly can make an informed choice," says Beeber.

### References:

(1) U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Dep't of Health and Human Services – Water Fluoridation – Guidelines & Recommendations – Water Fluoridation Additives (accessed March 11, 2007)  
[www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/engineering/wfadditives.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/engineering/wfadditives.htm)

(2) April 24,2000 letter from NSF International to State of Florida, Department of Public Health  
[www.fluoridealert.org/NSF-Letter.pdf](http://www.fluoridealert.org/NSF-Letter.pdf)

(3) New Scientist, “Trace arsenic in water raises cancer risk,” by Emma Young, September 14, 2001  
[www.newscientist.com/article.ns?id=dn1300](http://www.newscientist.com/article.ns?id=dn1300)

(4) National Resources Defense Council, “Arsenic and Old Laws.” Chapter 1 - Arsenic has been found at levels of health concern in the tap water of tens of millions of Americans in 25 states [www.nrdc.org/water/drinking/arsenic/chap1.asp](http://www.nrdc.org/water/drinking/arsenic/chap1.asp)

(5) [www.epa.gov/safewater/arsenic/index.html](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/arsenic/index.html)

(6) [www.fluoridealert.org/thiessen-statement.pdf](http://www.fluoridealert.org/thiessen-statement.pdf)

NYSCOF is an all-volunteer group dedicated to educating the public about the adverse health effects of fluoride and fluoridation.

Contact: Paul S. Beeber, Esq., President and General Counsel, New York State Coalition Opposed to Fluoridation, Inc.  
[nyscof@aol.com](mailto:nyscof@aol.com)

[www.orgsites.com/ny/nyscof](http://www.orgsites.com/ny/nyscof)

NYSCOF News Releases

[tinyurl.com/6kqtu](http://tinyurl.com/6kqtu)

**[You can find this press release here](#)**