

Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies Advisory Committee Meeting 02-2018

Date and time: 5 October 2018, 11:00 am

Item	Key discussion points	Actions
1. Welcome and apologies		
2. Previous minutes		Accepted
3. Public water supply fluoridation – expanding fluoridation coverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation NSW Health should seek Regional Organisation of Councils (ROC) and or new Joint Organisations of Councils (JOs) engagement where Councils do not fluoridate. Consider approaching the Riverina and Riverina and Murray Joint Organisations of Councils in Riverina. NSW Health should consider approaching local doctors, nurses and pharmacists as trusted members of the community. This could be through primary care networks. 	Where a Council has resolved to support fluoridation, NSW Health should consider whether there is a need to engage with the community on the benefits of drinking fluoridated tap water.
4. Public water supply fluoridation – implementation and management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation NSW Health will continue to engage with water utilities and other agencies to note when changes to water supply infrastructure are being considered. 	

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5. NSW Health update		
5.1. NSW fluoridation reporting statistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation 	<p>NSW Health to review systems that are out of service, and continue to provide support where needed.</p> <p>NSW Health to confirm that statistics are representative of plant operation.</p>
5.2. Fluoridation programs and budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister's commitment • Projects and support • Capital subsidy 	
5.3. Research and investigation projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Sydney Communications • Natural fluoride • Walgett support • SafeWork NSW Work Health and Safety • Review of Environmental Factors 	
5.4. Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TAFE course and future • Other providers 	
5.5. Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislative context • Regulation remade • Minor Code of Practice update • Code of Practice Review 	
5.6. Centre for Oral Health Strategy update		<p>COHS to act as a conduit to ensure ADA is well connected with programs.</p> <p>COHS to further consider services for small towns and communities which are not viable for fluoridation.</p>
6. Department of Industry Water update – No update available		
6.1. Form 1 approvals		
6.2. Commissioning of new plants	NSW Health will support utilities that are commencing fluoridation for the first time.	
7. Committee members update		
8. General business		

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8.1. NHMRC review and implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public statement • Q&A document • Target range <p>Effective range of fluoride concentration stated by NHMRC is based on avoiding fluorosis.</p> <p>Concentration should be as close as possible to 1 mg/L to ensure maximum benefit, while avoiding fluorosis of aesthetic concern.</p> <p>Statistics show that fluorosis is trending down, so there is no rationale to reduce the current level. No real evidence that people drink less water according to region.</p> <p>Public Health England 2018 shows difference in levels of tooth decay between 0.7 and 0.9 mg/L. Link here</p> <p>If level was lowered, the most disadvantaged will lose most benefit. No risk of harm, so again no rationale to change.</p> <p>Systems with some level of natural fluoride should be lower priority for fluoridation than those with very low levels.</p>	<p>NSW Health to draft a position in target fluoride concentration in drinking water, based on the Committee's discussion, and seek input from the Committee at a future meeting.</p> <p>NSW Health to consider the feasibility of research into naturally fluoridated communities.</p>
8.2. NSW Code of Practice review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation • Committee's engagement 	
8.3. Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oberon 	
9. Other business		