THE EFFECTS OF WATER FLUORIDATION IN THE UK

2013

FLUORIDATED WATER WAS REINTRODUCED TO AREAS OF CUMBRIA.

We asked parents living in Cumbria who were pregnant and parents whose child was about 5 years old to take part.

WHAT WE DID?

Dentists visited schools and carried out a dental check-up and took some pictures of teeth from those who were in the study.

WHO TOOK PART?

1,444
five year olds living in Cumbria (who took part from birth)

1,192
eleven year olds living in Cumbria (who took part from age of 5)

WHAT WE FOUND?

WE COMPARED THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO HAD EXPERIENCED DECAY IN FLUORIDATED AND NON-FLUORIDATED AREAS

5 YEAR OLD CHILDREN

received from birth (baby teeth)

17%
Fluoridated water received from birth

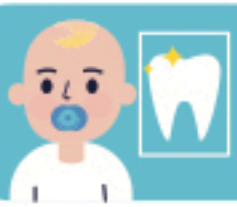
21%
No Fluoridated water

11 YEAR OLD CHILDREN

received from about 5 years old (permanent teeth)

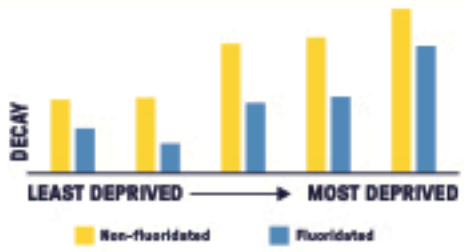
19%
Fluoridated water received from around 5 years old

22%
No Fluoridated water



Water fluoridation was effective in reducing decay in baby teeth when received from birth

We compared the cost for water fluoridation with children's dental appointments and treatments. We also took quality of life into account by measuring it in a questionnaire. **We found it is likely that adding fluoride to the water is value for money**



People from more deprived areas had more decay in both the fluoridated and non-fluoridated group

PROJECT CATFISH

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE RESULTS OF THE CATFISH STUDY SEE: WWW.CATFISH-STUDY.ORG

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