



## CDHA Responds to Study Exploring Prenatal Exposure and IQ

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Research on community water fluoridation (CWF) continues to make headlines. As with all evidence, it is important to carefully review its quality and relevance to the Canadian context before contemplating any policy changes.

A [study conducted in Mexico](#) exploring prenatal fluoride exposure and IQ levels in children was recently published. While this study adds to the totality of research on CWF, its research methods limit our ability to draw any firm conclusions. For example, the population in Mexico is exposed to fluoride not only in drinking water, which contains varying levels of naturally occurring fluoride, but also in salt, which is fluoridated. As a result, there is no way of knowing how much fluoride, and from which sources, the pregnant women in the study consumed.

With over 70 years of CWF experience in Canada, the evidence clearly demonstrates that community water fluoridation protects the oral and overall health of communities. The Canadian Dental Hygienists Association (CDHA) promotes this important public health practice as a safe and effective way to reduce dental decay for all. For more information, read CDHA's [position statement](#) and [FAQs](#).

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