



Dental Public Health Activity Descriptive Summary

Practice Number: 28004
Submitted By: Oral Health Program, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
Submission Date: July 2001
Last Reviewed: January 2015
Last Updated: January 2015

Community Water Fluoridation Program

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recognizes community water fluoridation as one of the 10 most important public health advances of the 20th Century. The Missouri Department of Health, Oral Health Program administers the Community Water Fluoridation Program, funded by an MCH Block Grant, since the 1960's. The mission of the program is to maintain and monitor the current communities that adjust their fluoride to the optimal level and to have new communities fluoridating each year. The program collaborates extensively with the Department of Natural Resources, Public Drinking Water Program and works closely with their state fluoridation engineer. Currently, 107 communities fluoridate their water supply. Approximately 77% of Missourians utilizing public water supplies receive optimally fluoridated water.

Lessons Learned:

Community Water Fluoridation is an integral part of Missouri's Oral Health Program, and provides one of the most effective and efficient means of prevention of dental caries. Missouri reached the HP 2000 and HP 2010 goal of 75% of the population on fluoridated community water supplies in 1998. Missouri's current goal for water fluoridation is 80% of the population on community water supplies by 2020.

Contact Person(s) for Inquiries:

Ben Harvey, Acting State Dental Director, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, 912 Wildwood Dr., Jefferson City, MO 95109, Phone: (573) 751-6002, Fax (573) 751-6041, Email ben.harvey@health.mo.gov