



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
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ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30333

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Bartlett/Cameron Mortality Rates

Epidemiological information presented in a comparative study of fluoridated Bartlett and fluoride-deficient Cameron by Dr. Nicholas C. Leone and others, and published under the title of "Medical Aspects of Excessive Fluoride in a Water Supply," is being misrepresented by opponents of fluoridation. They claim "350% more deaths" in fluoridated Bartlett than in fluoride-deficient Cameron based on the number of deceased reported in 1953 (Bartlett, 14 of 116; Cameron, 4 of 121.) Any implied relationship of an increased death rate and fluoridation is without validity. Their statement fails to consider and adjust for the aged population in Bartlett and ignores the authors' comments and basic information presented in the tables.

Dr. Leone states in his study, "the age distributions were similar though not exactly comparable, since in Bartlett the participants were predominately older. The imbalance is particularly evident in the age group 70 and over. As a result, the difference between the age-corrected mortality rates is not significant by statistical analysis." (underlining supplied.)

Dental Disease Prevention Activity  
Bureau of State Services