

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

Public Health Service

Health Resources Administration

Refer: FL-72

February 1975

REFUTATION OF ALLEGED MUTAGENIC EFFECTS OF FLUORIDATION

An article, "Sodium Fluoride as a Potential Environmental Mutagen in Mammalian Eggs," by Georgiana Jagiello, M.D. and J.S. Lin appeared in Archives of Environmental Health, Volume 29, 1974. Opponents of fluoridation have cited this article in opposition to fluoridation programs. The author has stated that the data apply explicitly to the concentrations and species studied as outlined in the article, and cannot be extrapolated to humans.

Dr. Jagiello has furnished the following statement in refutation of attempts to apply the referenced research to fluoridation:

"Concerning our publication, 'Sodium Fluoride as a Potential Mutagen in Mammalian Eggs,' published in Archives of Environmental Health, may I direct particular attention to

- (1) the variation of response between species and especially the lack of human data
- (2) the statement that it is unlikely that oocytes with clumping or atresia could be ovulated or fertilized
- (3) only minor effects were seen in the in vivo mouse experiments and
- (4) the long discussion concerning the translation of these very restricted, specific experiments with lower forms to anything we know about fluoride environments.

"At the present time with the little we know about fluoride levels, it is not possible to extrapolate from these experiments to a mutagenic effect of fluoride on human oocytes. It would clearly be scientifically unsound to do so."

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