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Status of Fluoridation in England

Statements by opponents of fluoridation are being circulated and appearing in letters-to-the-editor columns claiming that the allegations of a relationship between fluoridation and cancer by Drs. Burk and Yiamouyiannis resulted in decisions to halt fluoridation in England. An official Government agency of England denies that this report has influenced them. Fluoridation is continuing in England and has strong Government support there. The following excerpt from a letter from Department of Health and Social Security, London, England, March 18, 1977 clarifies the status of fluoridation in England:

"Fluoridation is continuing in England. About 4½ million people (some 9% of the population) in England receive fluoridated water. Progress in extending fluoridation has been disappointing lately. This is due to administrative and quasi-legal difficulties which we hope to iron out. It is not at all related to the Burk-Yiamouyiannis report to which we give no credence."

"In addition, there are a number of fluoridation schemes in Wales and in Scotland. These are continuing, but there also progress in extending fluoridation has been disappointing, for similar reasons."

"Following the publication of the Royal College of Physicians report 'Fluoride, Teeth, and Health' last year, our Government has strongly reiterated its support for water fluoridation."

Dental Disease Prevention Activity
Bureau of State Services