

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

Public Health Service

Health Resources Administration

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Status of Fluoridation in the Netherlands

About 25 percent of the population in the Netherlands have been receiving fluoridated water.

Recently, opponents challenged the right of the Minister to authorize fluoridation under the 1961 Water Supply Act. The High Court ruled that fluoridation was not covered by this specific act. This was neither a ruling on whether fluoridation was good or bad, nor on whether it was legal or illegal.

The future status of fluoridation in the Netherlands appears to depend upon Parliamentary action on a national fluoridation bill which the Public Health Minister has indicated he will submit to the Parliament this fall.

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