

FLUORIDATION'S NEUROTOXICITY

There is **no question** that fluoride is neurotoxic - it can cause irreversible brain damage. Water fluoridation **cannot** be declared safe.



On September 24, 2024, a federal court ruled, after a 7-year science-based lawsuit, that fluoridation **“poses an unreasonable risk of reduced IQ in children.”**¹ It ordered the EPA to take action to eliminate this risk.

This landmark decision was based on an ever-increasing number of peer-reviewed, published studies and the testimonies of several of the world's leading scientists.

The National Toxicology Program (NTP), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), is the highest-level scientific review in the country. Its monograph, published August 21, 2024, concluded higher water fluoridation levels **“are consistently associated with lower IQ in children.”**² In the 19 highest-quality studies, 18 linked higher fluoride with lower IQs. *Several of these studies found this link at levels in fluoridated water, 0.7 mg/L.*

NTP's meta-analysis of 74 human studies from 10 nations, published January 5, 2025, provided more details. It reaffirmed the monograph, saying that **“the more fluoride a child is exposed to, the more likely that child's IQ will be lower than if they were not exposed.”**³ Some children are more genetically susceptible to toxins and others simply drink more water or ingest more food and drinks processed with fluoridated water. All contribute to the toxic load, contradicting claims that no children are harmed from drinking fluoridated water.

Four of the most significant studies documenting the seriousness of fluoride's neurotoxicity are from Canada:

- **2020:** (Till et al)⁴ Babies fed formula mixed with fluoridated water averaged 6 IQ points less than those mixed with non-fluoridated water. Non-verbal IQ losses were even higher, an average of 13 points.
- **2019:** (Green et al)⁵ Every 1 mg/L increase in fluoride in pregnant women's urine linked to a 4.5 decrease in IQ in their male children. *JAMA Pediatrics*' physician editor said, **“I would not have my wife drink fluoridated water”**⁶ if she were pregnant. Linda Birnbaum, PhD, retired director of the National Toxicology Program, said, **“It is time to protect kids' developing brains from fluoride.”**⁷
- **2019:** (Riddell et al)⁸ A nearly 300% higher risk of ADHD was found for children living in fluoridated areas. This reaffirmed earlier studies linking fluoride to ADHD in Mexico (2018)⁹ and the U.S. (2015).¹⁰
- **2018:** (Malin et al)¹¹ Iodine-deficient adults - nearly 18% of the population - with higher fluoride levels had a greater risk of hypothyroidism (known to be linked to lower IQs). Author Ashley Malin, PhD, said, **“I have grave concerns about the health effects of fluoride exposure.”**¹²

On May 1, 2024, the first U.S. study on human neurotoxicity (Malin et al)¹³ was published. Based in Los Angeles, it found that children of mothers with higher fluoride exposures during pregnancy had *double* the risk of several neurobehavioral problems, including anxiety, depression and symptoms linked to autism. *It was the 10th consecutive NIH-funded study linking higher fluoride to neurotoxic harm.*¹⁴

Updated February 2025

References at:
<https://fluoridealert.org/content/references3/>



Fluoride Action Network
fluoridealert.org