

Dr John Carnie
Chief Health Officer
Department of Human Services
50 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne 3000

9th November, 2007

Dear Dr Carnie,

Re: Proposed fluoridation of the Warrnambool, Geelong and Ballarat Water Supplies

We the undersigned are medical practitioners who have concerns about the efficacy and safety of water fluoridation.

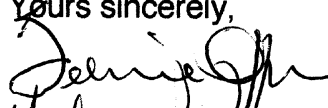
There is heated controversy and disagreement among the international scientific and medical community about the effectiveness and potential further adverse health impacts of water fluoridation.

We recognise dental disease is a major problem with wide-ranging adverse quality of life and health sequelae. We also understand the major factors impacting on dental disease are oral hygiene, nutrition and access to dental services rather than water fluoridation.

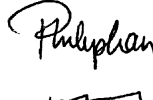

It is conceded by the dental profession that the mechanism of action of fluoride in dental protection is topical, rather than systemic (via ingestion). Dose related adverse effects are acknowledged, most obviously with dental fluorosis. The practice of public water fluoridation pre-dates much of the scientific data that is coming through in recent years. The current scientific interest in the effect of fluoride on tissues other than teeth is also raising questions on safety that have not been previously addressed and may need further studies and time to validate.


We feel that it is imprudent to initiate further fluoridation of public water supplies until such time as modern data can either substantiate or refute the alleged benefits, and the safety or otherwise is established.

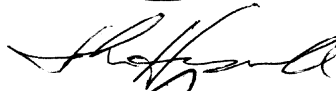
Yours sincerely,


 DR BERNIE OPPERMANN MBBS

 MICHAEL PAGE MBBS FACRAN

 PHILIP GAN, FRACS.  - KAROLINE GUNN MBBS MEd 191.

 PING FUNG FRALCP.


 JOHN HOUNSELL FRACO FRCPA


 CHRISTIAN FIEDLER FRALCP

 CAMPBELL MCKELLAN MBBS

 JONATHAN DUFF MB, BS

 ALAN BALDAM MBBS


 AMI THIES MBBS

 Chris Walters MB BS BMedSci.

EMILY WALSH MBBS



S. King SELBY KING MBBS. RALCP

 BRENDAN KAY MBBS FRALCP.


 MARK IVERS FRANZCP


CC: The Editor, The Standard
The Editor, The Geelong Advertiser
The Editor, The Courier, Ballarat
The Editor, The Age

The Editor, The Sun Herald
The Editor, The Spectator (Hamilton)
The Editor, The Portland Observer
The Editor, The Casterton News
Politicians Concerned

 DR. DRAGOMIR MADENOVIC ORAN. Surgeon.

 DR. DRAGOMIR MADENOVIC MBBS DRACOG RANZCOG FACRAN

 DAVID RICHARDS MBBS. DA FRALCP.

 DAVID RICHARDS. M.B., Ch.B., FACH AM.

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Dr Janet van Leerdam
MB ChB DA DRCOG
MRCGP FACNEM
Prov No 242 773X

14/11/2007

Dr John Carnie
Chief Health Officer
Department of Human Services
50 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne 3000

Dear Dr Carnie,

Re: Proposed fluoridation of the Warrnambool, Geelong and Ballarat Water Supplies

I the undersigned is a medical practitioner who has concerns about the efficacy and safety of water fluoridation.

There is heated controversy and disagreement among the international scientific and medical community about the effectiveness and potential further adverse health impacts of water fluoridation.

We recognise dental disease is a major problem with wide-ranging adverse quality of life and health sequelae. We understand the major factors impacting on dental disease are oral hygiene, nutrition and access to dental services rather than water fluoridation.

It is conceded by the dental profession that the mechanism of action of fluoride in dental protection is topical, rather than systemic (via ingestion). Dose related adverse effects are acknowledged, most obviously with dental fluorosis. The practice of public water fluoridation pre-dates much of the scientific data that is coming through in recent years. The current scientific interest in the effect of fluoride on tissues other than teeth is also raising questions on safety that have not been previously addressed and may need further studies and time to validate.

We feel that it is imprudent to initiate further fluoridation of public water supplies until such time as modern data can either substantiate or refute the alleged benefits, and the safety or otherwise is established.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Janet van Leerdam

DOCTOR	SPECIALTY	CONTACT DETAILS
Dr Bernie OPPERMANN	General Practice	Warrnambool Medical Clinic 193a Liebig Street Warrnambool VIC 3280 Phone: 5562 2766
Dr Michael PAGE	General Practice	Warrnambool Medical Clinic 193a Liebig Street Warrnambool VIC 3280 Phone: 5562 2766
Mr Philip GAN	General Surgery	Botanic Rd Consulting Suites Suite 2, SJOG Healthcare 136 Botanic Road Warrnambool VIC 3280 Phone: 5562 2177
Dr Karoline GUNN	General Practice	Warrnambool Medical Clinic 193a Liebig Street Warrnambool VIC 3280 Phone: 5562 2766
Dr Ping Wei Fung	General Practice	Jamieson St. Medical Clinic 39 Jamieson Street Warrnambool VIC 3280 Phone: 5562 6533
Dr John HOUNSELL	Physician/Haematologist	Princess Street House 4 Princess Street Warrnambool VIC 3280 Phone: 5561 6008
Dr Christian FIEDLER	Paediatrics	Warrnambool Paediatricians Corner Ryot & Koroit Streets Warrnambool VIC 3280 Phone: 5564 4300
Dr Campbell McKELLAR	General Practice	The Health Spot 275 Koroit Street Warrnambool VIC 3280 Phone: 5562 4528
Dr Jonathon DUFFY	General Practice/Nutritional Medicine	East Raglan Clinic 366 Raglan Parade Warrnambool VIC 3280 Phone: 5562 9466
Dr Alan BALDAM	General Practice	The Health Spot 275 Koroit Street Warrnambool VIC 3280 Phone: 5562 4528
Dr Amy THIES	General Practice	The Health Spot 275 Koroit Street Warrnambool VIC 3280 Phone: 5562 4528
Dr Chris WALTERS	General Practice	Hopewell Health Centre 69 Mortlake Road Warrnambool VIC 3280 Phone: 5561 1488

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Dr Brendan KAY	General Practice	Jamieson St Medical Clinic 39 Jamieson Street Warrnambool VIC 3280 Phone: 5562 6533
Dr Mark IVERS	Psychiatry	Suite 2, 304-306 Timor Street Warrnambool VIC 3280 Phone: 5561 1038
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Dr Janet VAN LEERDAM (Separate Letter)	General Practice	Hilltop Medical Clinic 62 Victoria Street Cobden VIC 3266 Phone: 5595 1168