

Report by Diana Estberg, Ph.D.

National Kidney Foundation (NKF) Rescinds Longtime Support of Water Fluoridation

This is an excerpt from the Lillie Center's press release regarding the NKF's new position on fluoridation: (from Fluoride Action Network Bulletin # 965)

“Ellijay, GA: June 3, 2008 – A new position paper from the National Kidney Foundation concludes that individuals with chronic kidney disease should be notified of the potential risk from exposure to fluorides. The document acknowledges gaping holes in research concerning kidney impacts from fluorides, lending new ammunition to the growing numbers of cities, health professionals, water agencies, and citizens who question industry and government assertions that water fluoridation has been proven safe.

The statement formally cancels NKF's previous position paper on water fluoridation and recommends that kidney patients be notified of the risks via the organization's web site.

Opponents of fluoridation believe the statement is a step in the right direction, but say that the document still does not go far enough and is not reaching the millions of average kidney patients – perhaps due to an apparent conflict of interest the National Kidney Foundation has in receiving grant funding from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the federal government's largest promoter of water fluoridation.”

For the complete statement, go to <http://www.fluoridealert.org/press/nkf2.html> where you also have access to the second video in the Fluoride Action Network's ongoing "Professional Perspectives" series. Coming in the wake of the National Kidney Foundation's (NKF) announcement that it has rescinded its longstanding support for water fluoridation, the video is timely as it details the risks fluoridation poses to patients with kidney disease.

The video features 3 scientists: Dr. Kathleen Thiessen, a member of the National Research Council's groundbreaking review of fluoride; Dr. Phyllis Mullenix, a toxicologist who has published seminal research on fluoride toxicity; and Dr. Paul Connett, chemist, and longtime opponent of water fluoridation.

Together with NKF's recent reversal on fluoridation, and Dan Stockin's excellent press release from the Lillie Center, this video will help focus attention on the serious risks fluoridation thrusts on this vulnerable subset of population.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, chemicals added to drinking water should be safe for ALL members of society, with an adequate margin of safety. This is clearly not the case for fluoridated water.