



# GREAT SMILES

PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY & ORTHODONTICS

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## 9 Reasons for the Increase in Fluorosis

Multiple sources were listed for the increase in fluoride:

- Inappropriate use of fluoride supplementation:
  - Incorrect use of AAP / AAPD supplementation schedule
  - Use of the current schedule without testing of water supply
  - Correct use of supplementation schedule, but a need to update the current schedule.
- Toothpaste ingestion by young children whose permanent teeth are in the enamel maturation phase of amelogenesis (Members highlighted the issue of marketing practices of toothpaste manufacturers showing large amounts of toothpaste on brushes and showing children on packages of high fluoride toothpastes)
- Fluoride rinse ingestion
- Soft drinks - high levels of intake
- Fruit juices - high levels of intake with some juices containing abnormally high fluoride concentrations
- Tea- high levels of intake in some populations
- Fluoridated school water supplies
- The influence of a mobile society in which:
  - Children reside in one locale, but spend a majority of time (school/ daycare) in another locale with a different fluoride profile
  - Families may relocate and continue supplementation when it may not be appropriate
- Inaccurate diagnosis of all white spot lesions in enamel as fluorosis adding to our perception of the fluorosis problem.

From: Pediatric Dentistry. Vol. 15, #2, p. 152. 1993