



Plenary sitting

B8-1374/2016

15.12.2016

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure

on fluoride in dental hygiene products

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Motion for a European Parliament resolution on fluorine in dental hygiene products

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 168 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
- having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas almost 90% of commercial toothpastes in western countries contain fluorine and whereas fluorine is said to have contributed to around an 80% reduction in tooth decay among children in Europe between 1950 and today;
- B. whereas, according to several scientific studies, particularly by the University of Toronto (April 2012), exposure to fluorine causes fluorosis, particularly among children under six years old, taking into account the higher risk of ingesting dental hygiene products and, in the long term, general weakening of the bone structure;
- C. whereas, according to studies by the National Research Council (US, 2006) and Harvard University (2012), exposure to fluorine is also responsible for long term alteration of mental faculties, with a 0.45 reduction in IQ expressed as a standardised weighted mean difference;
- 1. Calls on the Commission, particularly through the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), to carry out a reliable and independent study into the toxicity of fluorine in dental hygiene products.