

Academic warns of fluoridation dangers

An environmental academic says he believes the Queensland Government's plans to introduce fluoride into the state's drinking water next year will do more harm than good.

Professor Mark Diesendorf from the University of NSW Institute of Environmental Studies says research shows that chronic health problems can arise from the artificial fluoridation of drinking water.

He says the Queensland Government needs to rethink its decision and come up with a safer way to prevent tooth decay.

"There's now quite a large body of scientific evidence that fluoride is actually harmful in the long-term," he said.

"People aren't going to drop dead instantaneously but chronically it is taken up and stored in the bones.

"It does damage to the bones over many years and has a number of other ill effects."