

## African-American Health Experts Talk About Community Water Fluoridation

"Community water fluoridation is a sound public health preventive measure, and the most cost-effective public health intervention for the primary prevention of tooth decay for everyone, regardless of age. It has also been shown to be the most effective public health strategy to reduce the dramatic disparities in dental [decay] between ethnic and racial groups."

[Dr Melvin Shipp](#)

President, American Public Health Association (2010-2013)



"With the development of fluoridated drinking water and dental sealants, Americans are less likely to experience tooth loss and gingivitis by middle age ... Community water fluoridation continues to be a vital, cost-effective method of preventing dental [cavities]."

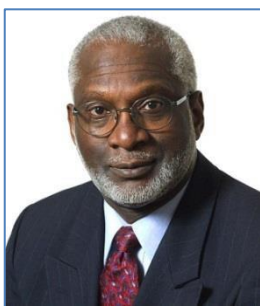
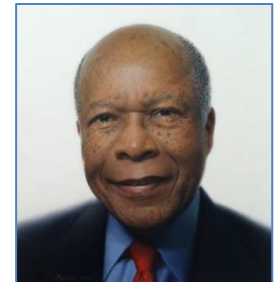
[Dr Regina Benjamin](#)

U.S. Surgeon General (2009-2013)

"Every leading health and medical organization supports fluoridation ... (but) fluoridation proposals generally face opposition from a small, but very vocal, group of people. They misrepresent the facts and portray fluoride as something that shouldn't be added to drinking water. What they ignore, of course, is that fluoride is a mineral that exists naturally in the water supply."

[Dr Louis Sullivan](#)

Secretary, U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services (1989-1993)



"More than 50 years of scientific research has found that people living in communities with fluoridated water have healthier teeth and fewer cavities than those living where the water is not fluoridated. ... A significant advantage of water fluoridation is that anyone, regardless of socioeconomic level, can enjoy these health benefits during their daily lives — at home, work, or at school or play — simply by drinking fluoridated water or beverages prepared with fluoridated water."

[Dr David Satcher](#)

U.S. Surgeon General (1998-2002)