



Hello!

Smile Spokane’s goal is to improve oral health in our region — and, as a result, to help improve residents’ overall health. We’re a network of health, social services and community organizations working to save people’s teeth.

The enclosed resources, created for you and other providers, will help you educate patients about the role of fluoride in protecting their teeth against decay.

Fluoride is nature’s cavity fighter, with fluoridation of drinking water named one of the 10 great public health achievements of the 20th century by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention. But Spokane doesn’t adjust fluoride levels in our water supply to benefit residents’ oral health. As a result, significant health disparities exist in our community.

Smile Spokane believes water fluoridation would be the most efficient and equitable way to address our community’s oral health problem. Patients need objective, credible information about this proven and essential mineral — so they can make informed decisions about its use, both as individuals and as part of a wider community conversation.

Here’s where we urge you to join the conversation simply by talking with your patients about fluoride. We know patients trust their doctors and dentists to provide credible information about their health.

- **DISPLAY THE “SAVE YOUR FANGS” POSTER** to spark questions and conversation.
- **MAKE THE FLIERS AVAILABLE** in your office or give them directly to patients.
- **USE THE FAQ SHEET** and “dos and don’ts” tips to help inform your conversations.
- **HAND OUT THE MONSTER STICKERS!**

If you have questions, please visit smilespokane.org or contact us at info@smilespokane.org. Thank you for promoting oral health — and overall health — in our community.

Sincerely,

Chuck Teegarden
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Communities in Schools
Co-Chair, Smile Spokane*

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*Program Coordinator,
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Co-Chair, Smile Spokane*

ABOUT SMILE SPOKANE

Smile Spokane is a network of health, social services and community organizations working to transform oral health in Spokane. Because our region faces high rates of tooth decay and other oral health challenges, Smile Spokane invests in strategies to ensure everyone in our community can enjoy better oral health, overall health and well-being.

