

smartphone application named APP e-Oral, the first AI-assisted tool designed specifically for oral muscle training. This innovative application offers real-time feedback, empowering users to collaborate with AI in improving crucial aspects of oral health. By engaging in targeted exercises over the course of eight weeks at home, healthy adults can enhance their occlusal strength, masticatory efficiency, language functions, and oral diadochokinesis.²

Such developments signify a promising step forward in addressing the oral motor decline associated with ageing, ultimately contributing to better health outcomes and an improved quality of life for our ageing population.

E. Veseli, Pristina, Kosovo

References

1. Takefuji Y. Oral frailty and associated diseases. *Br Dent J* 2023; **235**: 296
2. Chan R S, Wong W W, Zhou T Y *et al*. Human-AI collaboration improves adults' oral biomechanical functions: a multi-centre, self-controlled clinical trial. *J Dent* 2024; doi: 10.1016/j.jdent.2024.105354.

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41415-024-8113-1>

Water fluoridation

Public opinion on community water fluoridation in Scotland

Sir, a random on-street survey of 410 people resident in three urban areas in Scotland (Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Glasgow) in 2021 showed that 63% thought fluoride should be added to water if it can reduce tooth decay, 28% stated they didn't know and 9% opposed the fluoridation of their water supply.¹

The two largest health boards in Scotland (NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and NHS Lothian) have recently reported the findings of their local health surveys which included a question on water fluoridation (Box 1).^{2,3}

The Health and Wellbeing Survey was conducted through face-to-face interviews with 10,030 adult residents across the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde between September 2022 and May 2023. The responses to the statement 'I am open to the possibility of water fluoridation in my local area' are shown in Fig. 1.²

Those with a limiting condition/illness were less likely than others to be open to the possibility of water fluoridation, as shown in Fig. 2.²

The water fluoridation question was the subject of a complaint from a respondent

Box 1 Survey question on water fluoridation

There is strong recent evidence and support from UK Chief Medical Officers that adding fluoride to water supplies will help reduce tooth decay. This question is only intended to explore your attitude towards this. The issue would be subject to formal public consultation before any future decisions were made.

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

I am open to the possibility of water fluoridation in my local area.

1. Agree
2. Neither agree nor disagree
3. Disagree
4. Unsure/I don't know what water fluoridation is

in Lothian who felt that the question was leading as the beneficial case for water fluoridation was presented before the question itself: 'There is strong recent evidence and support from UK Chief Medical Officers that adding fluoride to water supplies will help reduce tooth decay'. Additionally, the 'Don't know what water fluoridation is' answer category could have included the additional text 'or enough about the subject'. As the design of the questionnaire item may have led to biased results, this question was excluded from the summary report.³

Based on the above findings, it will be challenging to introduce community water fluoridation in Scotland.

C. A. Yeung, Bothwell, UK

References

1. Jones C, Lowry R J, Brophy R. Public attitudes to water fluoridation in Scotland. *Br Dent J* 2022; doi: 10.1038/s41415-022-4506-1.

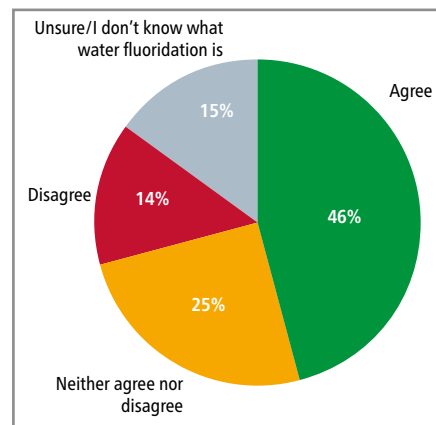


Fig. 1 Responses to the statement 'I am open to the possibility of water fluoridation in my local area'

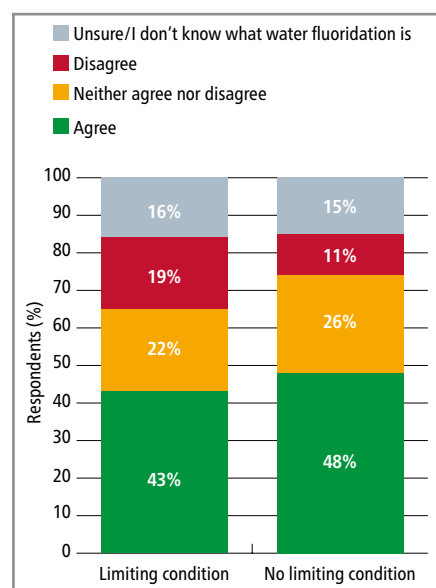


Fig. 2 Responses to the statement 'I am open to the possibility of water fluoridation in my local area' by limiting conditions

2. Leven T. NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde 2022/23. Adult Health and Wellbeing Survey: Greater Glasgow and Clyde report. February 2024. Available at <https://www.stor.scot.nhs.uk/handle/11289/580377> (accessed October 2024).
3. NHS Lothian. NHS Lothian Public Health Survey 2023: Technical report. June 2024. Available at <https://services.nhslothian.scot/publichealth/wp-content/uploads/sites/105/2024/06/NHS-Lothian-Public-Health-Survey-2023-Technical-Report-.pdf> (accessed October 2024).

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41415-024-8114-0>

Correction to: 3D printing in dentistry: balancing innovation and safety

The original article can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41415-024-8077-1>

Journal's correction note:

Letter *Br Dent J* 2024; **237**: 683–684.

When this letter was originally published, the second author's name was printed incorrectly as 'R. Bengt'. This should have read 'R. B. Price'.

The journal apologises for any inconvenience caused.

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41415-024-8111-3>