Flouride Cuts **Tooth Decay**

Up To 65%

This is the last of five articles on dental health Children who drink fluoridated water from birth have up to 65 per cent less tooth decay. The benefits are lifelong.

Fluoridation programs provide the most dental benefits to children because fluoride is incorporated into the enamel as it is formed. The teeth become decayresistant because fluoride makes the enamel less susceptible to acid attacks.

Wilmington's city water supply is supplemented with fluoride and offers this decay-reducing property. Well water and community water systems are not supplemented with fluoride, so you should consult a dentist or pediatrician for a fluoride supplement prescription. Water softeners do not add fluoride.

Indirectly, fluoridation programs help reduce the incidence of malocclusion. Some malocclusion, or improper coming together of the teeth, is the result of premature loss of the first teeth. With less decay because of fluoridation, fewer first teeth are lost too early.

Fluoride also helps protect the important 6-year molars, usually the first permanent teeth to erupt.

Another way to obtain the benefits of fluoride is through topical application. A dentist or a dental hygienist cleans the teeth, dries them thoroughly, then applies a fluoride solution. The application should be repeated at intervals the dentist recommends.

Studies have shown that topical applications of fluoride are of additional value in preventing decay even in communities with fluoridated water supplies.

Some North Carolina public schools are using a fluoride mouth rinse during school hours. N.C. Dental Society wholeheartedly supports this program and suggests that all parents allow their children to take part in this valuable decaypreventive procedure.

It is important when removing plaque from your teeth every day that you brush with a fluoride toothpaste. Some fluoride toothpastes have been recognized effective decaypreventing dentifrices by the Council on Dental Therapeutics of the Dental Association. Look for the statement on the toothpaste carton.

The fluoridation of public water supplies, the topical application of fluoride and the use of fluorides in other ways may not prevent all tooth decay. Combined with a balanced diet, daily plaque removal, and regular dental check-ups, however, such a program can bring about a dramatic reduction in dental disease.

Wood Is Cited

For Academics

FRONT ROYAL, VA.-An Edenton student has been cited for top academic achievement at Randolph-Macon Academy in Front Royal, Virginia, following the completion of the third grading period for the current session at the college-preparatory institution.

Joseph Albert Ward, the son of Mrs. Thomas E. Ward of 110 Morris Circle in Edenton was among 55 students included on the Academy's Second Honor Roll after compiling a 3.00 grade-point average on a 4.00 system. He is a junior at R-MA:

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