

## Debatten um die Trinkwasserfluoridierung in der Schweiz am Beispiel von Basel-Stadt und Zürich seit dem Zweiten Weltkrieg

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Ariane Fromherz

### Summary

The fluoridation of drinking water was introduced in several cities in the United States from 1945 onward on a trial basis, which marked the beginning of fluoride prophylaxis in dentistry. Following the American example, the Basel-City Parliament passed community water fluoridation in 1959. In Zurich, salt fluoridation was gradually introduced in the 1950s and 60s. In the following essay, the initial adoption of the American fluoridation literature in the 1940s and 50s by Swiss authorities, the dental scientific community and the media is portrayed. Subsequently, the fluoridation policies of the cantons Basel-City and Zurich from the 1950s until the abolishment of water fluoridation in Basel in 2003, will be compared. The question as to why Basel-City and Zurich chose different universal fluoridation methods will be answered by examining the role of the key players involved, their background and evidence.

*Keywords: community water fluoridation, dentistry, salt fluoridation, fluoride prophylaxis, fluoridation campaign*