

CASE STUDY:

Return on Investment of Oral Health Interventions

Public Health England (PHE) commissioned YHEC to develop a tool to help local authorities make decisions about investing in oral health improvement programmes for pre-school children.

YHEC developed a return on investment (ROI) tool to estimate the cost of delivering oral health programmes and the resulting cost saving to the NHS and to local authorities.

The tool focused on programmes with the strongest evidence on improving the oral health of young children, measured by Public Health Outcomes related to decay in 5 year olds. These included: supervised tooth brushing, fluoride varnish, water fluoridation, provision of toothbrushes and paste by post and by health visitors.

The results indicated that water fluoridation was associated with the highest ROI - for every £1 invested in the programme we would expect to see a cost saving of £12.71 after 5 years and £21.98 after 10 years.



This ROI tool is now online at the [PHE website](#) for local authorities to incorporate their own local data and could help in their consideration of commissioning oral health programmes.

YHEC also conducted a rapid review of cost-effectiveness evidence of interventions to improve the oral health of children. Read about this research here yhec.co.uk/resources/case-studies



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