

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 1198**  
**Asked on 15 September 2009**

MRS PRATT asked the Deputy Premier and Minister for Health (MR LUCAS)-

**QUESTION:**

With reference to the Minister's response to Question on Notice No. 543 of 2009 and as pharmacies both in my area and Brisbane were not able to help one of my constituents locate an access point for fluoride drops—

- (1) Will all Queensland pharmacies be advised of the name and location of compounding pharmacists that stock fluoride drops so they can help those who may require fluoride and, if not, why not?
- (2) Will all Queensland dentists be similarly advised since a dental prescription is required to get fluoride drops and, if not, why not?

**ANSWER:**

I thank the Honourable member for Nanango for her question.

Queensland Health policy *The Use of Fluorides in Queensland* suggests that the use of fluoride tablets and drops in areas where the water supply does not contain optimum levels of fluoride is not advised unless under the prescription of a dentist. That advice is consistent with current advice across the dental profession in Australia including the Australian Dental Association.

The dentist should take into account an assessment of an individual's cavity risk, a professional assessment of the fluoride content of the drinking water, and a fluoride history.

These Queensland Health policy documents have been disseminated widely throughout the public sector oral health services and are available via the Queensland Health internet site.

While Queensland Health is unable to endorse or recommend any private sector business – including compounding chemists- contact details are freely available in the Yellow Pages or by contacting the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Qld Branch. The Pharmacy Guild's website is [www.guild.org.au/qld/](http://www.guild.org.au/qld/)