



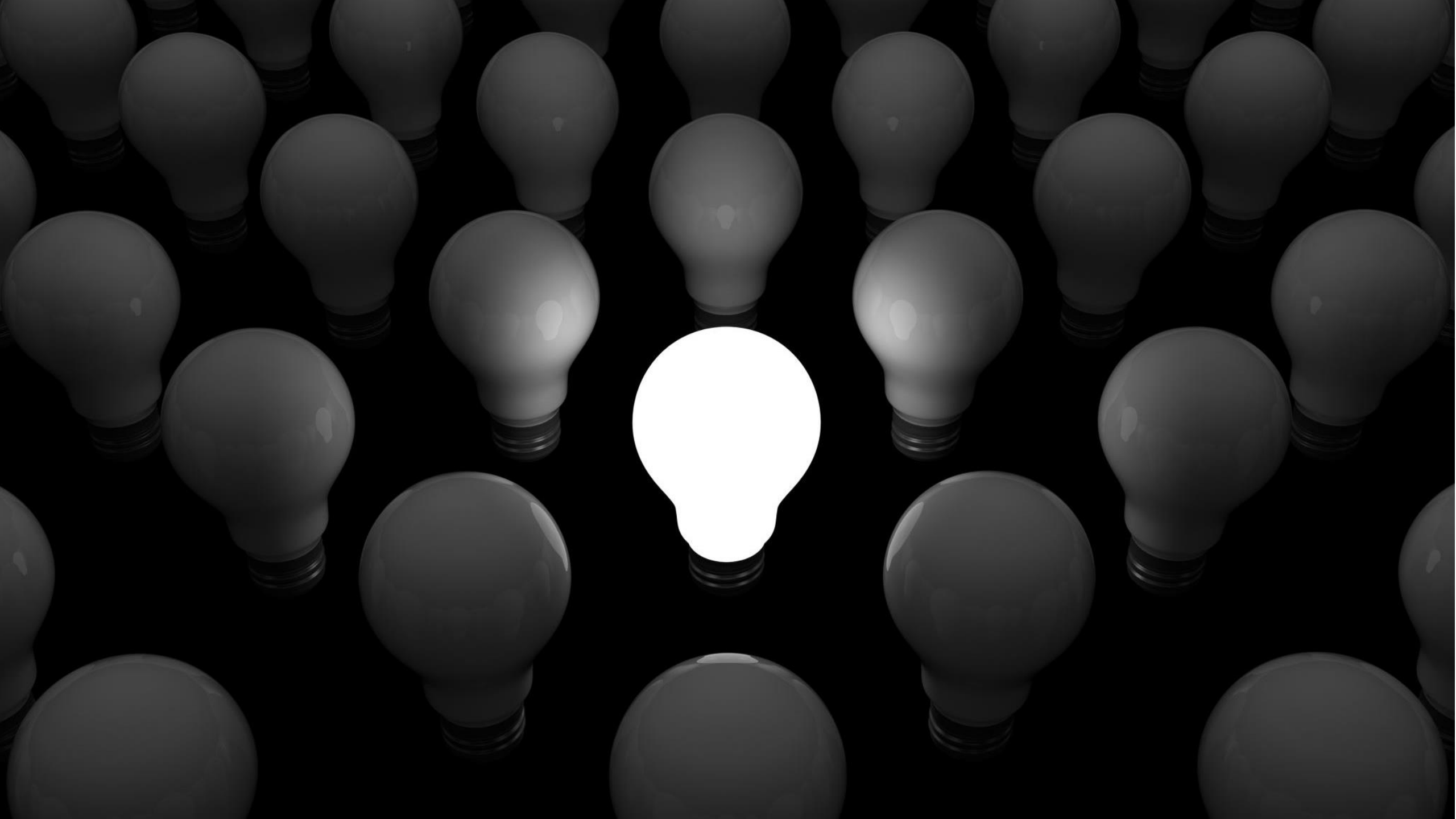
FLUORIDE SCIENCE REVIEW

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Situation

- After community water fluoridation began in the US in 1945, we experienced a dramatic decline in cavities.
- CDC continues to recommend community water fluoridation at the concentration recommended by the PHS guidelines as a cornerstone strategy for the prevention of tooth decay in the United States.



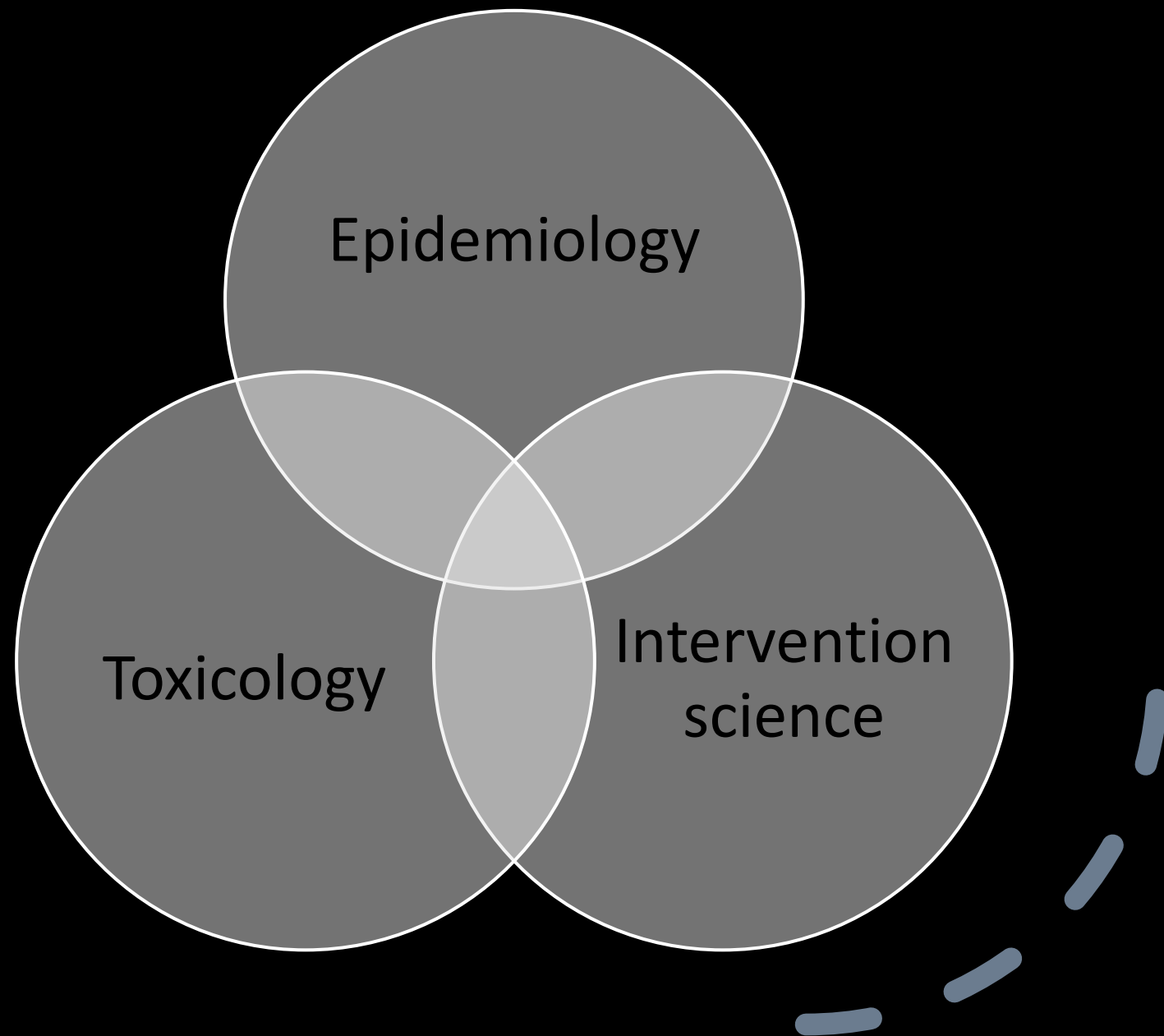


Background

- 72% of the US population and 64% of the WA population are served by Community Water Systems that fluoridate.
- Community Water Systems fluoridate to a concentration of 0.7 mg/L. This concentration was determined to provide the best balance of benefit to potential harm.
- Review of scientific literature is important to help judge the safety and benefits of community water fluoridation over time.
- If we see a signal, it is prudent to look again at what we think we know.



Assessment



Recommendation

Science Review:

An opportunity for those of us in the governmental public health system to listen, learn, and develop our own way to consider all relevant science in our discussions of community water fluoridation policy and recommendations.

January: Intro; NTP report on fluoride and associated articles

January: TSCA and EPA court judgement

February: Oral health and health disparities

February: Impact of CWF on Oral health and disparities

March: Community Impact: Hear from community members on how presence or absence of water fluoridation has impacted their community

Next steps

- Report to SBOH a summary of science review
- If indicated, begin science-based policy discussions around community water fluoridation





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