## Roadmap Towards Better Oral Health for New Zealand

**Summary** 

## Tackling the Major Risk Factors Impacting New Zealanders' Oral Health

- The NZDA strongly supports Community Water Fluoridation (CWF) as an effective, safe, and affordable public health measure, endorses fluoridated toothpastes and recommends their use for all ages.
- The Roadmap advocates for the introduction of a levy to reduce the consumption of sugary drinks.
- It also wants measures to better control advertising and marketing of sugary drinks, and the introduction of policies that encourage, and in some cases mandate, healthier alternatives.
- The Roadmap highlights the oral health dangers of tobacco, and supports smoking cessation tools, including vaping, but with stronger regulations to minimise youth vaping.
- It supports alcohol cessation programmes, such as measures to reduce alcohol harm among at-risk groups, including Māori, Pacific people and the less socio-economically advantaged. This includes steps to limit alcohol advertising and sponsorship.

The NZDA also notes the importance of investing in oral health research that supports population health, workforce development and improved clinical practice.

## **Queries and Comments**

For queries and comments please contact:

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