

# What Does Fluoride Actually Do?

Fluoride is a naturally occurring mineral that functions to build and maintain the health of our bones and teeth.

#### FLUORIDE MAKES TEETH STRONGER

**Demineralization** is the process teeth undergo when attacked by cavity-causing bacteria or strong acids. Consistent demineralization will destroy tooth enamel. Fluoride can reverse this process through **remineralization**. It adds minerals back into enamel, making our teeth stronger and more resistant to future acid attacks.

#### HOW CAN FLUORIDE BE ABSORBED BY OUR TEETH?



We ingest minerals via food, water, or oral supplements. When fluoride is consumed **systemically**, it becomes a part of the tooth development process.

We also benefit from **topical** fluoride, applied to the teeth via toothpaste, gel, mouthwash, or professional applications by the dentist.



Patients who need an extra boost of fluoride's benefits may be recommended a varnish treatment by their dentist. When applied by your dental professional, an application of fluoride varnish can take less than one minute!

## FLUORIDE PREVENTS CAVITIES

Professional fluoride treatments offer a high concentration of this beneficial mineral in a single dose that gives **immediate** and **long-lasting** results to patients of any age. Studies have shown that fluoride is essential for fighting cavities.

### FACTORS THAT INCREASE CAVITY RISK:



PAST DENTAL TREATMENT



**DRY MOUTH** 



SUGARY OR ACIDIC FOODS OR BEVERAGES



POOR ORAL CARE AT HOME

### YOUR NEXT STEPS

When you consider that the cost is only a fraction of what you would pay for a dental filling to repair a cavity, it's the most cost-effective and conservative way to maintain your natural smile!

Speak to us today about protecting your teeth with a fluoride varnish treatment!