

From Today's Boston Herald

Harvard launches probe in dental research flap

By **Jessica Heslam**

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Harvard has launched its own probe into a dental professor accused by a watchdog group of fudging research results.

In a statement, the Harvard School of Dental Medicine said it ``takes all allegations of misconduct seriously and has a standard system for reviewing allegations of research impropriety."

Harvard plans to ``assemble an inquiry committee to review the questions raised concerning the reporting of this work."

The Herald reported yesterday that the Environmental Working Group said Dr. Chester Douglass told federal officials there was no link between fluoridated water and bone cancer in boys, contradicting exhaustive research done by one of his doctoral students.

The Washington, D.C.-based group said Douglass received possibly more than \$1 million in grant money from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to research whether there's a link between fluoride and bone cancer in boys.

Douglass is editor-in-chief of the Colgate Oral Care Report, a newsletter supported by toothpaste maker Colgate Palmolive. He has been chairman of the Department of Oral Health Policy and Epidemiology at the Harvard School of Dental Medicine since 1978.

The Washington Times <http://washingtontimes.com/upi/20050628-101847-9176r.htm>
June 29, 2005.

United Press International

Group: Dentist hid fluoride-cancer link

Jun. 28, 2005 at 10:30PM

An environmental group alleges a dentist who teaches at Harvard concealed a student's findings linking fluoride to bone cancer.

The Environmental Working Group, which is based in Washington, planned to file a complaint Tuesday with federal regulators against Dr. Chester Douglass, the Boston Herald reports.

Douglass is a professor of epidemiology at the Harvard School of Dental Medicine. The group says that he received a grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to study a possible link between fluoride and bone cancer in adolescent boys.

The EWG says a student, Dr. Elise Bassin, found a correlation and that Douglass, while signing off on her research, did not include it in his grant report.

Douglass is the editor in chief of the Colgate Oral Care report, a newsletter subsidized by Colgate Palmolive.
