

Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2003 3:09 PM
Subject: UPDATE: MORE ON DRUGS IN WATER

Dear Aquathin Dealer OnLine, Splash NewsBulletin and Allergic Reaction NewsBulletin Members;

*We have provided several Splash and Forum Q & A Newsletters in the past concerning the recent revelations in new information regarding the abundance of medications showing up in tap water. The quick read below provides updated information over this growing concern. Again, while the toxicity levels are not known yet, we do know this: **doctors and pharmacists often advise not to mix medications...how do you avoid this when they already are, and you may be a healthy individual not on or needing medication? Often drugs are prescribed in minute quantities i.e. milligrams and fractions of milligrams over short periods...but how do you avoid the chronic dosing exposure from tap, showers and baths?***

I do like the point the author makes about "everyone living downstream from everyone else". Now where have you heard that before ?!

Given the choice of consuming drugs and MRI fluids or not....common sense says not ! I love my Aquathin !!

Warmest regards to all...as well, your comments are always welcome and very much appreciated.

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(visit the allnew <http://www.aquathin.com>)

"Alfie"
Alfred J. Lipshultz, President

P.S. "Splash NewsBulletins", "Forum Q & A", "Allergic Reaction", Biz Bank, Tech Bank and Quote Bank... ARE ALL FREE services to all Authorized Aquathin Dealers and their clients to keep you abreast of technology updates and industry news.

Boulder ground zero in disturbing water pollution survey

By CINDY BROVSKY

Associated Press Writer

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) - Traces of prescription drugs, household cleaners and chemicals from MRIs are showing up in the U.S. water supply, according to government researchers who have completed one of the most detailed surveys ever done on a single American watershed.

Just how the pollution affects people or the environment is not clear, officials with the U.S. Geological Survey said Tuesday.

But they said the results of their Boulder Creek study reflects the common medications and household products getting into the nation's rivers and streams.

The study, done in 2000, was the first to use the most advanced equipment to detect small traces of chemicals. A nationwide study was done the same year, but did not have the same level of detail.

Boulder Creek water meets federal safety standards, but chemicals including anti-depression, heart and hormone medication adds a new wrinkle to water quality control nationwide, USGS scientist Sheila Murphy said.

"There is little known what these chemicals do to humans or animals in small doses," said Murphy, co-author of the study.

Chemicals detected in Boulder Creek include metals found in mayonnaise, shampoo, water softeners and vitamin supplements. The study also found a spike of "gadolinium," a rare element that is injected into medical patients during magnetic resonance imaging exams or MRIs.

Murphy said little is known about galolinium. She said the results do not mean Boulder residents receive more MRIs than their counterparts across the nation.

"You would find the same results in a river downstream from any city," Murphy said, urging residents not to dump old medication or household cleaners in toilets or sinks.

Boulder Creek was chosen for the study because it allowed scientists to look at the water from protected mountain headwaters, through an urban region to an agricultural area.

The area studied includes 447 square miles that starts at the Continental Divide and goes to the plains north of Denver. Snowfall is the source of most of the water, though some also came from pipelines on the Western Slope.

Officials said they study can be used to draw up water quality policies.

"Good science is so important for policy makers to make good policy," Boulder Mayor Will Toor.

Boulder is studying the use of pesticides on noxious weeds near the creek, Toor said. The city also is looking at traces of animal feces in the river and whether the waste is from wildlife or domestic dogs.

Boulder households have responded to past water quality issues, said Chris Rudkin, Boulder water quality coordinator. The city found large levels of copper at its treatment plant a couple of years ago and traced it to a chemical used by homeowners to kill roots in water and sewer pipes.

"We got the word out and the stores that sold the product agreed to replace it with another product," Rudkin said.

On the Net:

USGS: <http://www.water.usgs.gov>

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