



Problem #5:

Back to the quote read by Dr. Ahmed:

warrants future studies to explore this relationship further.¹⁸ This study was critiqued by other researchers for methodological limitations including measurement error and no consideration for other potential explanatory variables (such as pre-term birth or exposure to tobacco, alcohol, arsenic or lead) apart from SES.⁴³ The results are advised to be interpreted with great caution due to high risk of ecological fallacy (water fluoridation measured at state level) and confounding bias.⁴³

- The Bashash et al. studies controlled for many potential explanatory variables besides SES
- They are not ecological studies; they measured individual level F exposure
- They did not deal with water fluoridation specifically; water is not even fluoridated in Mexico City