

## **Supplementary material**

### **Fluoride Exposure from Drinking Water Increases the Risk of Stroke: An Ecological Study in Changwu Town, China**

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## **Abbreviations**

APC: annual percentage change

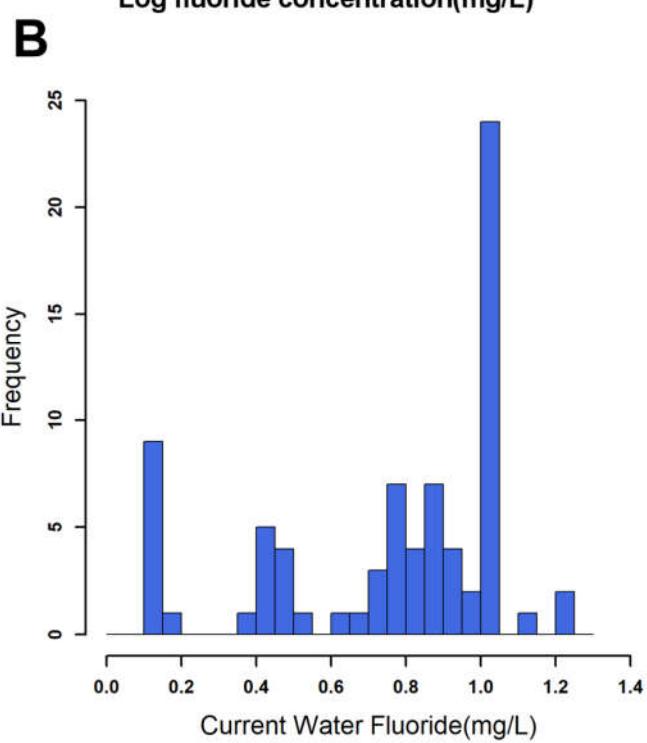
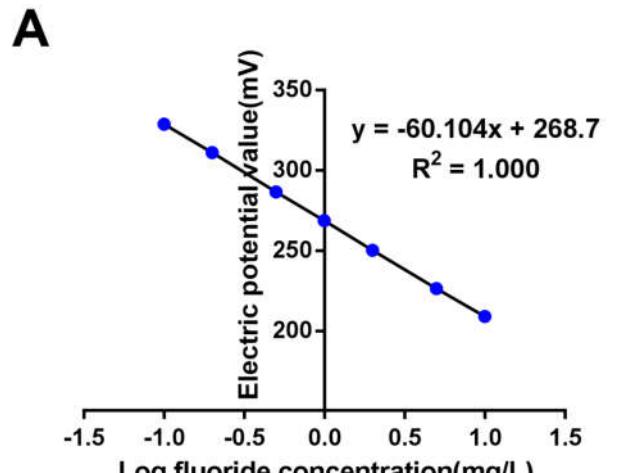
CEDC: Center for Endemic Disease Control

CWF: current water fluoride

WFCEI: water fluoride cumulative exposure index

**Table S1.** Annual population of permanent residents in Changwu Town from 2017 to 2021.

| Year | Total | Sex   |        | Age (years old) |       |       |       |       |      |
|------|-------|-------|--------|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
|      |       | Male  | Female | ≤34             | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65-74 | ≥75  |
| 2017 | 22983 | 12064 | 10920  | 4379            | 3981  | 4245  | 4379  | 3353  | 2647 |
| 2018 | 22569 | 11868 | 10701  | 4328            | 3887  | 4143  | 4329  | 3272  | 2611 |
| 2019 | 22453 | 11801 | 10652  | 4278            | 3860  | 4104  | 4305  | 3292  | 2615 |
| 2020 | 22342 | 11726 | 10617  | 4250            | 3825  | 4084  | 4290  | 3290  | 2604 |
| 2021 | 22181 | 11665 | 10516  | 4220            | 3792  | 4045  | 4233  | 3302  | 2590 |



**Figure S1.** The detection and result of CWF concentration of 77 villages in Changwu Town. (A) The standard curve about the measured electric potential values and the Log concentration of CWF. (B) Histogram of CWF concentration of 77 villages in Changwu Town.

**Table S2.** The numbers of stroke patients and deaths by sex, age and disease types in Changwu Town from 2017 to 2021.

| Year     | Total | Sex  |        | Age (years old) |       |       |       |       |     | Disease types |             |
|----------|-------|------|--------|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|---------------|-------------|
|          |       | Male | Female | ≤34             | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65-74 | ≥75 | Ischemic      | Hemorrhagic |
| Patients | 2017  | 483  | 277    | 206             | 3     | 27    | 102   | 195   | 116 | 40            | 453         |
|          | 2018  | 633  | 351    | 282             | 3     | 33    | 138   | 254   | 155 | 50            | 597         |
|          | 2019  | 763  | 417    | 346             | 4     | 34    | 162   | 301   | 206 | 56            | 723         |
|          | 2020  | 866  | 470    | 396             | 4     | 39    | 182   | 345   | 245 | 51            | 820         |
|          | 2021  | 978  | 537    | 441             | 4     | 40    | 203   | 385   | 291 | 55            | 928         |
| Deaths   | 2017  | 27   | 17     | 10              | 0     | 1     | 2     | 3     | 8   | 13            | 18          |
|          | 2018  | 35   | 20     | 15              | 0     | 0     | 3     | 4     | 15  | 13            | 19          |
|          | 2019  | 58   | 30     | 28              | 0     | 2     | 2     | 15    | 17  | 22            | 42          |
|          | 2020  | 60   | 33     | 27              | 0     | 1     | 3     | 8     | 19  | 29            | 46          |
|          | 2021  | 25   | 15     | 10              | 0     | 1     | 2     | 8     | 6   | 8             | 16          |

**Table S3.** The prevalence and mortality rates of stroke by gender in Changwu Town from 2017 to 2021 (per 100,000).

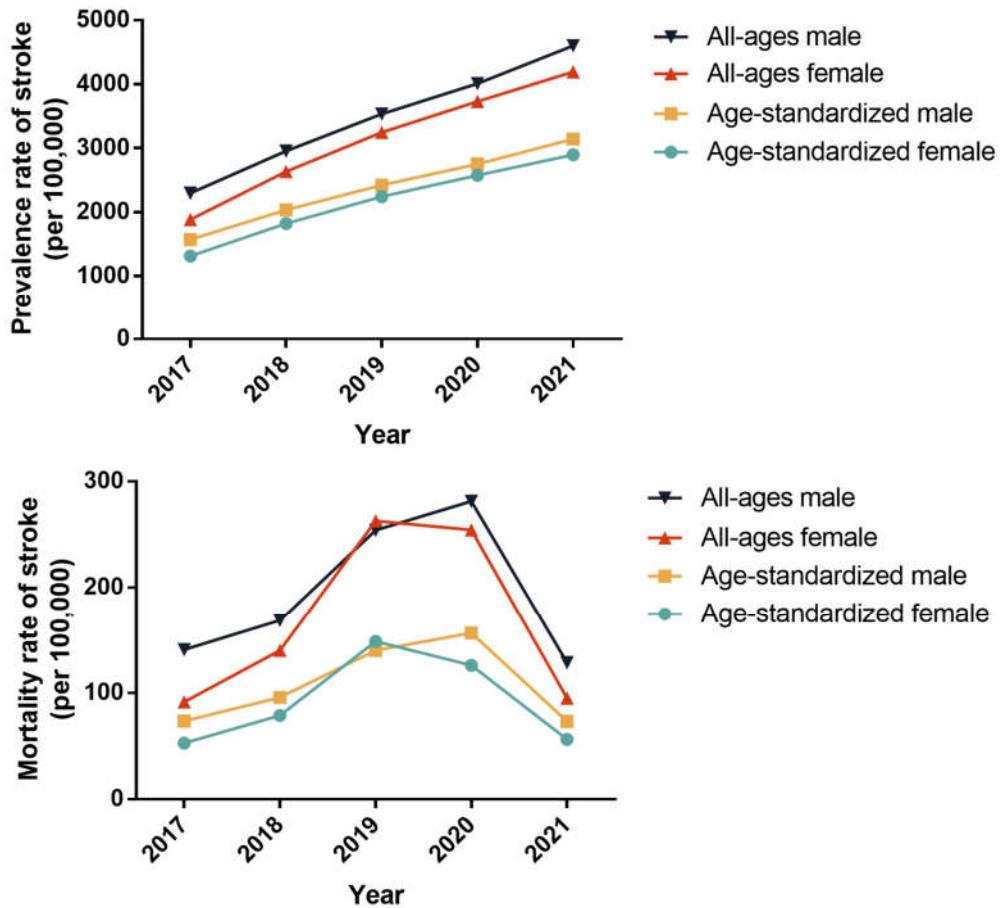
| Year         | All-ages prevalence rate |               |                  |              | Age-standardized prevalence rate |               |                    |              | All-ages mortality rate |             |                  |              | Age-standardized mortality rate |             |                  |              |
|--------------|--------------------------|---------------|------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|
|              | Male                     | Female        | Chi-squared<br>e | P-value<br># | Male                             | Female        | Chi-squared<br>are | P-value<br># | Male                    | Female      | Chi-squared<br>e | P-value<br># | Male                            | Female      | Chi-squared<br>e | P-value<br># |
| 2017         | 2296.2                   | 1886.5        | <b>4.484*</b>    | <b>0.034</b> | 1571.7                           | 1313.8        | 2.072              | 0.150        | 140.9                   | 91.6        | 1.186            | 0.276        | 73.7                            | 52.8        | 0.339            | 0.560        |
| 2018         | 2957.5                   | 2635.3        | 2.027            | 0.155        | 2035.9                           | 1824.1        | 0.937              | 0.333        | 168.5                   | 140.2       | 0.291            | 0.590        | 95.9                            | 79.0        | 0.047            | 0.829        |
| 2019         | 3533.7                   | 3248.2        | 1.298            | 0.255        | 2421.0                           | 2243.3        | 0.486              | 0.486        | 254.2                   | 262.9       | 0.016            | 0.899        | 140.1                           | 148.6       | 0.084            | 0.772        |
| 2020         | 4008.4                   | 3730.0        | 1.072            | 0.300        | 2750.7                           | 2575.9        | 0.341              | 0.560        | 281.4                   | 254.3       | 0.152            | 0.696        | 156.6                           | 126.2       | 0.182            | 0.670        |
| 2021         | 4603.7                   | 4193.6        | 2.019            | 0.155        | 3142.8                           | 2897.4        | 0.650              | 0.420        | 128.6                   | 95.1        | 0.550            | 0.458        | 73.3                            | 56.4        | 0.330            | 0.566        |
| APC          | <b>17.9**</b>            | <b>20.2**</b> |                  |              | <b>17.8**</b>                    | <b>20.0**</b> |                    |              | 7.6                     | 11.8        |                  |              | 8.5                             | 8.7         |                  |              |
| APC<br>95%CI | 12.7~23.3                | 11.2~30.0     |                  |              | 12.4~23.4                        | 11.3~29.5     |                    |              | -30.5~66.4              | -41.8~114.9 |                  |              | -29.9~67.9                      | -41.0~100.1 |                  |              |
| t-value      | 11.7                     | 7.5           |                  |              | 11.1                             | 7.7           |                    |              | 0.5                     | 0.5         |                  |              | 0.6                             | 0.4         |                  |              |
| P-value†     | <b>0.001</b>             | <b>0.005</b>  |                  |              | <b>0.002</b>                     | <b>0.005</b>  |                    |              | 0.631                   | 0.624       |                  |              | 0.595                           | 0.694       |                  |              |

Abbreviations: APC, annual percentage change.

# P-Value for chi-square comparison between two groups.

† P-Value for APC comparison over five years.

P < 0.05 is indicated in bold, \* P < 0.05, \*\* P < 0.01, \*\*\* P < 0.001.



**Figure S2.** The prevalence and mortality rates of stroke by gender in Changwu Town from 2017 to 2021 (per 100,000).

**Table S4.** The prevalence and mortality rates of stroke by age (years old) in Changwu Town from 2017 to 2021 (per 100,000).

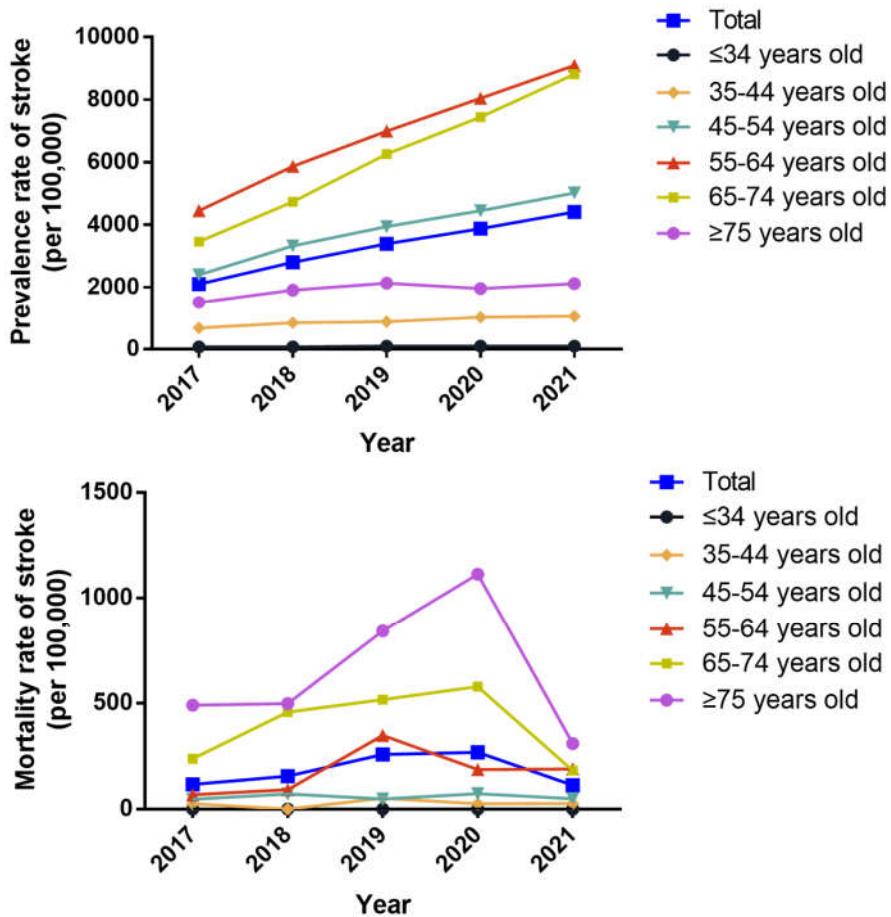
| Year     | Prevalence rate |              |               |               |               |          | Mortality rate |                  |          |        |           |           | P-value#   |        |                  |                   |
|----------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------|----------------|------------------|----------|--------|-----------|-----------|------------|--------|------------------|-------------------|
|          | ≤34             | 35-44        | 45-54         | 55-64         | 65-74         | ≥75      | Chi-sq<br>uare | P-val<br>ue#     | ≤3<br>4  | 35-44  | 45-54     | 55-64     | 65-74      |        |                  |                   |
| 2017     | 68.5            | 678.3        | 2402.8        | 4453.1        | 3460.1        | 1511.1   | <b>269.06</b>  | <<br><b>0***</b> | 0.<br>00 | 25.1   | 47.1      | 68.5      | 238.6      | 491.1  | <b>32.271***</b> | <<br><b>0.001</b> |
| 2018     | 69.3            | 849.1        | 3330.9        | 5867.4        | 4737.2        | 1915.0   | <b>357.49</b>  | <<br><b>6***</b> | 0.<br>00 | 0.0    | 72.4      | 92.4      | 458.4      | 497.9  | <b>37.512***</b> | <<br><b>0.001</b> |
| 2019     | 93.5            | 880.8        | 3947.8        | 6991.9        | 6258.5        | 2141.5   | <b>451.58</b>  | <<br><b>8***</b> | 0.<br>00 | 51.8   | 48.7      | 348.4     | 516.5      | 841.3  | <b>44.306***</b> | <<br><b>0.001</b> |
| 2020     | 94.1            | 1019.6       | 4456.4        | 8042.0        | 7447.9        | 1958.5   | <b>542.53</b>  | <<br><b>6***</b> | 0.<br>00 | 26.1   | 73.5      | 186.5     | 577.6      | 1113.7 | <b>75.143***</b> | <<br><b>0.001</b> |
| 2021     | 94.8            | 1055.0       | 5019.2        | 9095.2        | 8814.2        | 2123.6   | <b>633.76</b>  | <<br><b>3***</b> | 0.<br>00 | 26.4   | 49.4      | 189.0     | 181.7      | 308.9  | <b>12.329*</b>   | <b>0.015</b>      |
| APC      | 9.6             | <b>10.9*</b> | <b>18.2**</b> | <b>18.3**</b> | <b>24.9**</b> | 6.6      |                |                  |          | 0.8    | 14.6      | 3.4       | 11.3       |        |                  |                   |
| APC      | -0.5~20         | 4.9~17.      | 9.8~27.       | 12.2~24       | 17.3~33       | -3.5~17. |                |                  |          | -23.9~ | -48.3~154 | -43.0~87. | -39.9~106. |        |                  |                   |
| 95%CI    | .7              | 3            | 3             | .7            | .0            | 7        |                |                  |          | 33.5   | .1        | 6         | 0          |        |                  |                   |
| t-value  | 3.0             | 5.9          | 7.2           | 10.1          | 11.3          | 2.0      |                |                  |          | 0.1    | 0.5       | 0.2       | 0.6        |        |                  |                   |
| P-value† | 0.057           | <b>0.010</b> | <b>0.005</b>  | <b>0.002</b>  | <b>0.001</b>  | 0.134    |                |                  |          | 0.935  | 0.623     | 0.869     | 0.619      |        |                  |                   |

Abbreviations: APC, annual percentage change.

# P-Value for chi-square comparison among six or five groups, the group with 0 cases is not included in the chi-square analysis.

† P-Value for APC comparison over five years.

P<0.05 is indicated in bold, \* P<0.05, \*\* P<0.01, \*\*\* P<0.001.



**Figure S3.** The prevalence and mortality rates of stroke by age in Changwu Town from 2017 to 2021 (per 100,000).

**Table S5.** The prevalence and mortality rates of stroke by disease types in Changwu Town from 2017 to 2021 (per 100,000).

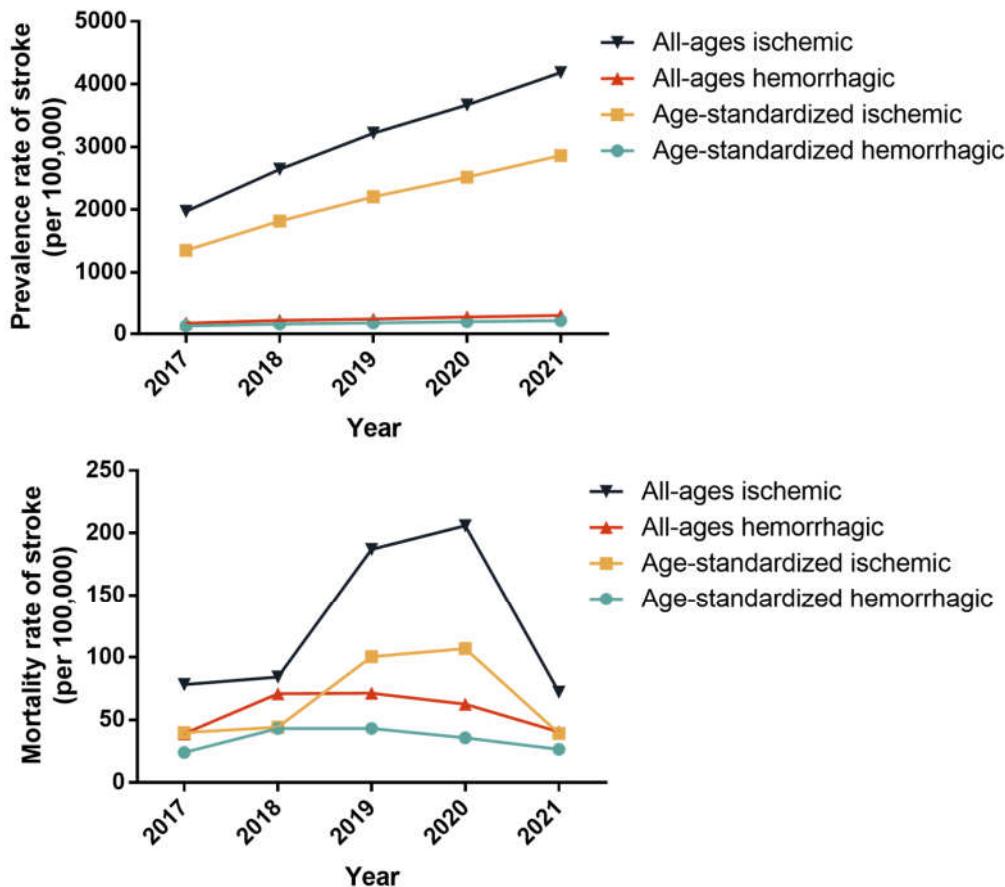
| Year     | All-ages prevalence rate |                      |                              |                   | Age-standardized prevalence rate |                      |                              |                   | All-ages mortality rate |                      |                             |              | Age-standardized mortality rate |                      |                         |              |
|----------|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
|          | Ischemic<br>c            | Hemorrhagic<br>hagic | Chi-sq<br>uare               | P-val<br>e#       | Ischemic<br>c                    | Hemorrhagic<br>hagic | Chi-sq<br>uare               | P-val<br>e#       | Ischemic<br>c           | Hemorrhagic<br>hagic | Chi-sq<br>uare              | P-val<br>ue# | Ischemic                        | Hemorrhagic<br>hagic | Chi-sq<br>uare          | P-val<br>ue# |
| 2017     | 1971.0                   | 174.0                | <b>342.3</b><br><i>37***</i> | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 1353.4                           | 131.3                | <b>229.860</b><br><i>***</i> | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 78.3                    | 39.2                 | 2.998                       | 0.083        | 39.9                            | 24.1                 | 1.384                   | 0.23<br>9    |
| 2018     | 2645.2                   | 217.1                | <b>458.3</b><br><i>73***</i> | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 1817.5                           | 160.4                | <b>310.576</b><br><i>***</i> | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 84.2                    | 70.9                 | 0.257                       | 0.612        | 44.2                            | 43.2                 | 1.470                   | 0.22<br>5    |
| 2019     | 3220.1                   | 240.5                | <b>566.3</b><br><i>36***</i> | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 2207.0                           | 175.3                | <b>385.815</b><br><i>***</i> | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 187.1                   | 71.3                 | <b>11.642*</b><br><i>*</i>  | <b>0.001</b> | 100.5                           | 43.1                 | <b>5.117*</b><br>4      | <b>0.02</b>  |
| 2020     | 3670.2                   | 273.0                | <b>641.4</b><br><i>29***</i> | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 2518.3                           | 198.1                | <b>437.868</b><br><i>***</i> | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 205.9                   | 62.7                 | <b>17.047*</b><br><i>**</i> | <b>0.001</b> | 106.9                           | 35.7                 | <b>7.994*</b><br>*<br>5 | <b>0.00</b>  |
| 2021     | 4183.9                   | 297.6                | <b>731.4</b><br><i>11***</i> | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 2863.5                           | 214.7                | <b>496.928</b><br><i>***</i> | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 72.1                    | 40.6                 | 1.959                       | 0.162        | 39.3                            | 26.6                 | 0.053                   | 0.81<br>9    |
| APC      | <b>19.2**</b>            | <b>13.50**</b>       |                              |                   | <b>19.1**</b>                    | <b>12.4**</b>        |                              |                   | 15.7                    | -1.3                 |                             |              | 14.7                            | -2.3                 |                         |              |
| APC      | 12.1~26                  | 8.90~18              |                              |                   | 12.0~26                          | 8.4~16..             |                              |                   | -39.6~1                 | -30.6~4              |                             |              | -39.6~11                        | -29.7~               |                         |              |
| 95%CI    | .8                       | .4                   |                              |                   | .7                               | 6                    |                              |                   | 21.4                    | 0.5                  |                             |              | 7.7                             | 35.8                 |                         |              |
| t-value  | 9.1                      | 9.6                  |                              |                   | 9.0                              | 10.3                 |                              |                   | 0.7                     | -0.1                 |                             |              | 0.7                             | -0.2                 |                         |              |
| P-value† | <b>0.003</b>             | <b>0.002</b>         |                              |                   | <b>0.003</b>                     | <b>0.002</b>         |                              |                   | 0.527                   | 0.916                |                             |              | 0.544                           | 0.835                |                         |              |

Abbreviations: APC, annual percentage change.

# P-Value for chi-square comparison between two groups.

† P-Value for APC comparison over five years.

*P* < 0.05 is indicated in bold, \* *P* < 0.05, \*\* *P* < 0.01, \*\*\* *P* < 0.001.



**Figure S4.** The prevalence and mortality rates of stroke by disease types in Changwu Town from 2017 to 2021 (per 100,000).

**Table S6.** The numbers of stroke patients and deaths under different levels of fluoride exposure in Changwu Town from 2017 to 2021.

|                   | Year | Total | Historical water fluoride |                         | CWF      |          | Non-endemic areas | Water improvement period |            |             |             | WFCEI#    |           |           |
|-------------------|------|-------|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------|----------|-------------------|--------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                   |      |       | Endemic (> 1.2 mg/L)      | Non-endemic(≤ 1.2 mg/L) | ≤ 1 mg/L | > 1 mg/L |                   | 1~5 years                | 6~10 years | 11~15 years | 16~20 years | Tertile 1 | Tertile 2 | Tertile 3 |
| Annual population | 2017 | 22983 | 10503                     | 12480                   | 12137    | 10847    | 12480             | 0                        | 4478       | 3744        | 2282        | 11746     | 4557      | 6123      |
|                   | 2018 | 22569 | 10365                     | 12204                   | 11845    | 10725    | 12204             | 0                        | 4438       | 3680        | 2248        | 11474     | 4544      | 6019      |
|                   | 2019 | 22453 | 10374                     | 12079                   | 11789    | 10664    | 12079             | 0                        | 4437       | 3689        | 2249        | 11354     | 4588      | 5992      |
|                   | 2020 | 22342 | 10345                     | 11998                   | 11723    | 10620    | 11998             | 0                        | 4421       | 3685        | 2239        | 11277     | 4576      | 5982      |
|                   | 2021 | 22181 | 10356                     | 11825                   | 11631    | 10550    | 11825             | 0                        | 4426       | 3724        | 2207        | 11113     | 4580      | 6010      |
| Patients          | 2017 | 483   | 321                       | 162                     | 380      | 103      | 162               | 0                        | 140        | 70          | 111         | 162       | 126       | 187       |
|                   | 2018 | 633   | 428                       | 205                     | 500      | 133      | 205               | 0                        | 192        | 100         | 136         | 209       | 166       | 250       |
|                   | 2019 | 763   | 519                       | 244                     | 602      | 161      | 244               | 0                        | 238        | 119         | 162         | 242       | 212       | 300       |
|                   | 2020 | 866   | 573                       | 293                     | 677      | 189      | 293               | 0                        | 256        | 141         | 176         | 284       | 237       | 331       |
|                   | 2021 | 978   | 622                       | 356                     | 744      | 234      | 356               | 0                        | 270        | 162         | 190         | 353       | 249       | 361       |
| Deaths            | 2017 | 27    | 11                        | 16                      | 13       | 14       | 16                | 0                        | 2          | 7           | 2           | 15        | 6         | 6         |
|                   | 2018 | 35    | 18                        | 17                      | 19       | 16       | 17                | 0                        | 5          | 10          | 3           | 11        | 13        | 11        |
|                   | 2019 | 58    | 26                        | 32                      | 31       | 27       | 32                | 0                        | 5          | 18          | 3           | 32        | 7         | 19        |
|                   | 2020 | 60    | 28                        | 32                      | 28       | 32       | 32                | 0                        | 13         | 7           | 8           | 29        | 11        | 20        |
|                   | 2021 | 25    | 9                         | 16                      | 12       | 13       | 16                | 0                        | 5          | 3           | 1           | 15        | 6         | 4         |

Abbreviations: CWF, current water fluoride concentration; WFCEI, water fluoride cumulative exposure index.

# All participants were divided into three groups based on tertile ranges of their WFCEI (Tertile 1 group: 7.00-51.00; Tertile 2 group: 51.53-74.61; Tertile 3 group: 74.93-199.38).

**Table S7.** The prevalence and mortality rates of stroke in endemic and non-endemic fluorosis areas in Changwu Town from 2017 to 2021 (per 100,000).

| Year              | Endemic      | All-ages prevalence rate |                                    |          | Age-standardized prevalence rate |                  |                                    | Endemic | All-ages mortality rate |            |          | Age-standardized mortality rate |             |            |          |       |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------|------------|----------|---------------------------------|-------------|------------|----------|-------|
|                   |              | Non-endemic              | Chi-square                         | P-value# | Endemic                          | Non-endemic      | Chi-square                         |         | Non-endemic             | Chi-square | P-value# | Endemic                         | Non-endemic | Chi-square | P-value# |       |
| 2017              | 3056.3       | 1298.1                   | <b>82.048*</b><br>**<br><b>01</b>  | <0.0     | 2184.1                           | 829.9            | <b>70.322*</b><br>**<br><b>01</b>  | <0.0    | 104.7                   | 128.2      | 0.267    | 0.605                           | 63.4        | 65.9       | 0.006    | 0.940 |
| 2018              | 4129.3       | 1679.8                   | <b>116.421</b><br>***<br><b>01</b> | <0.0     | 2935.0                           | 1094.5           | <b>95.257*</b><br>**<br><b>01</b>  | <0.0    | 173.7                   | 139.3      | 0.426    | 0.514                           | 106.1       | 76.5       | <0.001   | 0.993 |
| 2019              | 5002.9       | 2020.1                   | <b>141.041</b><br>***<br><b>01</b> | <0.0     | 3514.5                           | 1342.5           | <b>109.964</b><br>***<br><b>01</b> | <0.0    | 250.6                   | 264.9      | 0.044    | 0.834                           | 153.7       | 137.1      | 0.003    | 0.954 |
| 2020              | 5539.2       | 2442.2                   | <b>132.063</b><br>***<br><b>01</b> | <0.0     | 3881.0                           | 1641.8           | <b>100.766</b><br>***<br><b>01</b> | <0.0    | 270.7                   | 266.7      | 0.003    | 0.955                           | 164.1       | 126.8      | 0.002    | 0.965 |
| 2021              | 6006.2       | 3010.7                   | <b>107.436</b><br>***<br><b>01</b> | <0.0     | 4203.8                           | 2020.0           | <b>83.640*</b><br>**<br><b>01</b>  | <0.0    | 86.9                    | 135.3      | 1.146    | 0.284                           | 56.9        | 72.6       | 0.001    | 0.969 |
| APC               |              | <b>17.3*</b><br>*        | <b>22.1***</b>                     |          | <b>16.2*</b><br>*                | <b>24.1***</b>   |                                    |         | 8.2                     | 10.9       |          |                                 | 9.4         | 7.6        |          |       |
| APC<br>95%CI<br>I | 8.1~27.4     | 19.6~24.7                |                                    |          | 7.3~25.9                         | 21.1~27.1        |                                    |         | -41.9~101.6             | -30.1~76.2 |          |                                 | -39.5~97.5  | -30.2~65.9 |          |       |
| t-value           | 6.2          | 30.3                     |                                    |          | 6.0                              | 28.7             |                                    |         | 0.4                     | 0.7        |          |                                 | 0.5         | 0.5        |          |       |
| P-value†          | <b>0.008</b> | <b>&lt;0.001</b>         |                                    |          | <b>0.009</b>                     | <b>&lt;0.001</b> |                                    |         | 0.714                   | 0.527      |          |                                 | 0.663       | 0.628      |          |       |

Note: APC, annual percentage change.

# P-Value for chi-square comparison between two groups.

† P-Value for APC comparison over five years.

*P* < 0.05 is indicated in bold, \* *P* < 0.05, \*\* *P* < 0.01, \*\*\* *P* < 0.001..

**Table S8.** The all-ages and age-standardized prevalence rates of stroke by gender in endemic and non-endemic groups in Changwu Town from 2017 to 2021 (per 100,000).

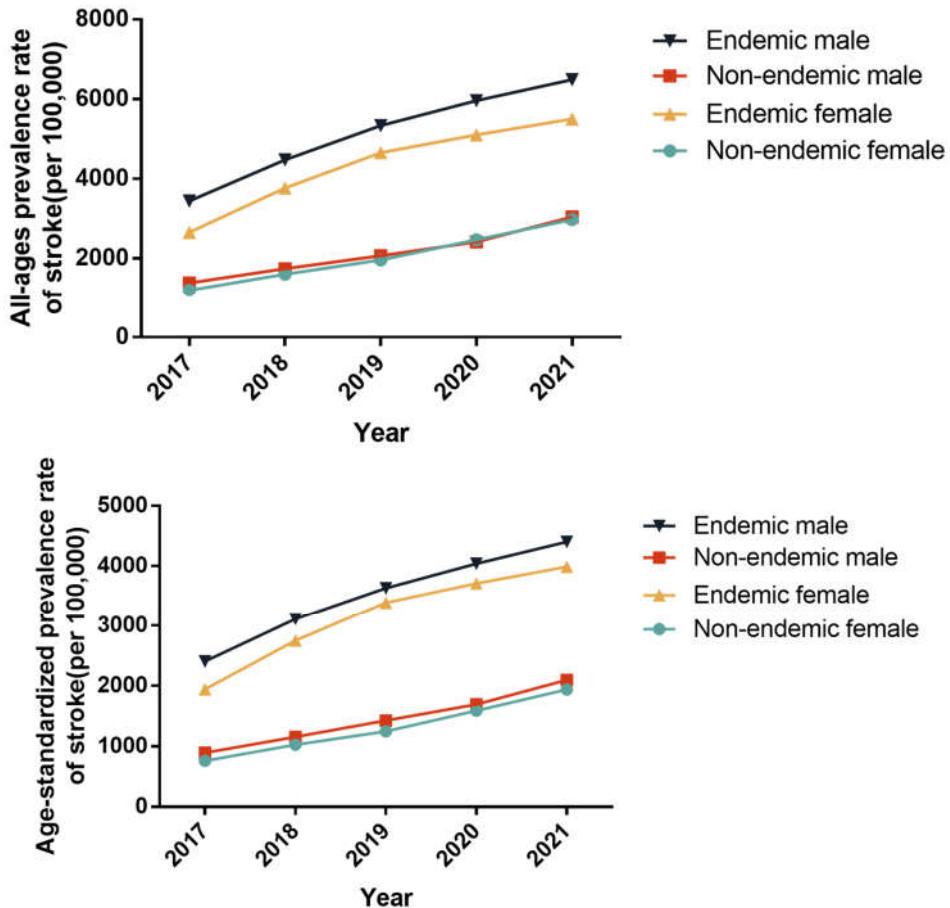
| Year     | All-ages prevalence rate |                  |                |                  |              |                  |                |                   | Age-standardized prevalence rate |                  |                |                  |              |                  |                |                   |
|----------|--------------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|
|          | Male                     |                  |                |                  | Female       |                  |                |                   | Male                             |                  |                |                  | Female       |                  |                |                   |
|          | Endemi<br>c              | Non-end<br>emic  | Chi-s<br>quare | P-val<br>ue#     | Endemi<br>c  | Non-end<br>emic  | Chi-sq<br>uare | P-val<br>ue#      | Endemic                          | Non-end<br>emic  | Chi-s<br>quare | P-val<br>e#      | Endemi<br>c  | Non-ende<br>mic  | Chi-sq<br>uare | P-val<br>ue#      |
| 2017     | 3445.4                   | 1383.3           | <b>53.74</b>   | <<br><b>7***</b> | 2653.8       | 1198.5           | <b>29.957</b>  | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 2405.4                           | 893.1            | <b>42.47</b>   | <<br><b>7***</b> | 1944.7       | 758.7            | <b>27.994</b>  | <<br><b>0.001</b> |
| 2018     | 4478.2                   | 1743.0           | <b>71.78</b>   | <<br><b>4***</b> | 3768.4       | 1605.4           | <b>46.128</b>  | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 3108.4                           | 1158.0           | <b>54.44</b>   | <<br><b>7***</b> | 2751.5       | 1026.9           | <b>41.539</b>  | <<br><b>0.001</b> |
| 2019     | 5339.4                   | 2070.9           | <b>84.91</b>   | <<br><b>9***</b> | 4653.9       | 1960.6           | <b>57.431</b>  | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 3631.4                           | 1426.0           | <b>57.41</b>   | <<br><b>0***</b> | 3389.2       | 1249.3           | <b>53.131</b>  | <<br><b>0.001</b> |
| 2020     | 5961.1                   | 2415.6           | <b>87.17</b>   | <<br><b>9***</b> | 5101.4       | 2473.1           | <b>47.264</b>  | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 4039.9                           | 1692.1           | <b>56.92</b>   | <<br><b>7***</b> | 3708.5       | 1590.0           | <b>44.376</b>  | <<br><b>0.001</b> |
| 2021     | 6490.7                   | 3040.8           | <b>71.21</b>   | <<br><b>7***</b> | 5501.3       | 29755            | <b>38.310</b>  | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 4403.8                           | 2098.3           | <b>47.37</b>   | <<br><b>0***</b> | 3990.9       | 1940.0           | <b>36.087</b>  | <<br><b>0.001</b> |
| APC      | <b>15.9**</b>            | <b>20.1***</b>   |                |                  | <b>17.6*</b> | <b>24.8***</b>   |                |                   | <b>15.1**</b>                    | <b>22.9***</b>   |                |                  | <b>17.3*</b> | <b>25.7***</b>   |                |                   |
| APC      | 8.7~23.                  | 17.9~24.         |                |                  | 5.9~30.      | 20.8~28.         |                |                   | 8.4~22.2                         | 19.8~26.         |                |                  | 5.8~30.      |                  | 21.9~29.6      |                   |
| 95%CI    | 6                        | 2                |                |                  | 5            | 8                |                |                   | 1                                |                  |                |                  | 1            |                  |                |                   |
| t-value  | 7.3                      | 23.3             |                |                  | 4.9          | 22.0             |                |                   | 7.5                              | 25.8             |                |                  | 4.9          | 24.0             |                |                   |
| P-value† | <b>0.005</b>             | <b>&lt;0.001</b> |                |                  | <b>0.016</b> | <b>&lt;0.001</b> |                |                   | <b>0.005</b>                     | <b>&lt;0.001</b> |                |                  | <b>0.016</b> | <b>&lt;0.001</b> |                |                   |

Abbreviations: APC, annual percentage change.

# P-Value for chi-square comparison between two groups.

† P-Value for APC comparison over five years.

P < 0.05 is indicated in bold, \* P<0.05, \*\* P<0.01, \*\*\* P<0.001.



**Figure S5.** The all-ages and age-standardized prevalence rates of stroke by gender in endemic and non-endemic groups in Changwu Town from 2017 to 2021 (per 100,000).

**Table S9.** The all-ages and age-standardized mortality rates of stroke by gender in endemic and non-endemic groups in Changwu Town from 2017 to 2021 (per 100,000).

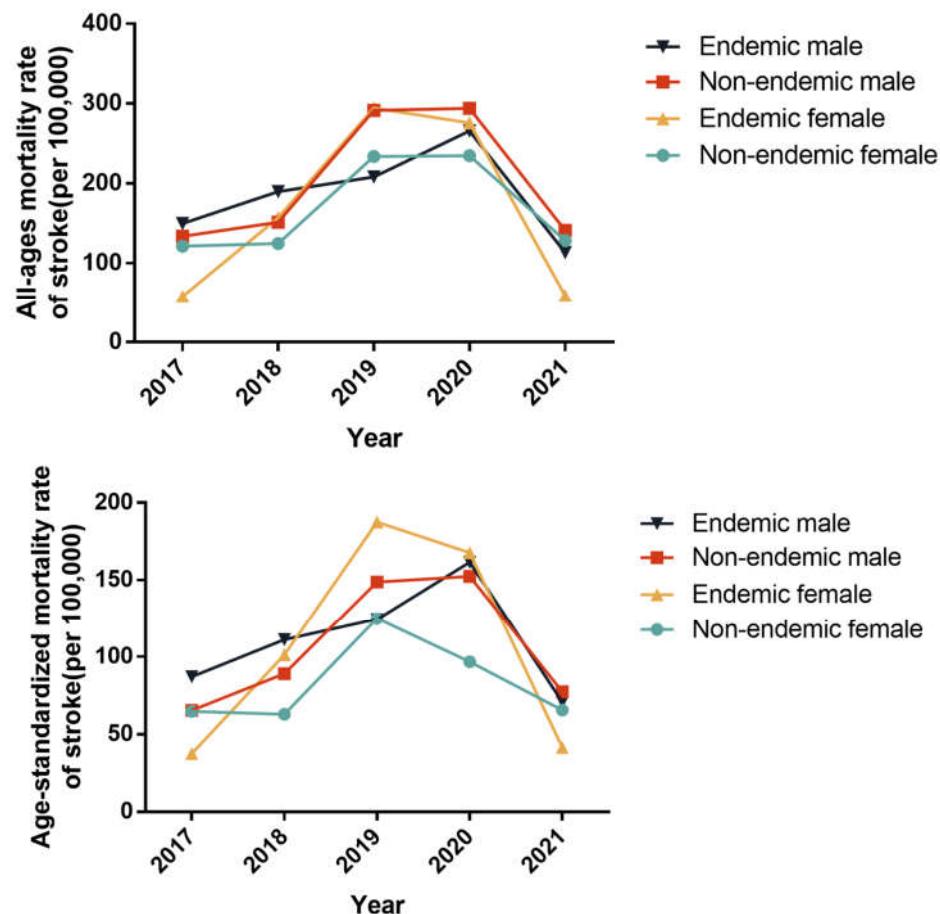
| Year     | All-ages mortality rate |                 |                |              |             |                 |                |              | Age-standardized mortality rate |                 |                |             |             |                 |                |              |
|----------|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
|          | Male                    |                 |                |              | Female      |                 |                |              | Male                            |                 |                |             | Female      |                 |                |              |
|          | Endemi<br>c             | Non-end<br>emic | Chi-s<br>quare | P-val<br>ue# | Endemi<br>c | Non-end<br>emic | Chi-sq<br>uare | P-val<br>ue# | Endemic                         | Non-end<br>emic | Chi-s<br>quare | P-val<br>e# | Endemi<br>c | Non-ende<br>mic | Chi-sq<br>uare | P-val<br>ue# |
| 2017     | 149.8                   | 133.9           | 0.053          | 0.817        | 58.1        | 121.6           | 1.197          | 0.274        | 87.1                            | 65.5            | 0.464          | 0.496       | 37.5        | 64.8            | 0.468          | 0.494        |
| 2018     | 189.6                   | 151.6           | 0.253          | 0.615        | 157.0       | 124.9           | 0.197          | 0.658        | 111.2                           | 89.0            | 0.152          | 0.697       | 101.3       | 62.9            | 0.227          | 0.633        |
| 2019     | 208.3                   | 291.5           | 0.793          | 0.373        | 294.6       | 233.8           | 0.372          | 0.542        | 124.4                           | 148.7           | 0.088          | 0.767       | 187.5       | 124.9           | 0.825          | 0.364        |
| 2020     | 265.8                   | 294.2           | 0.083          | 0.773        | 275.8       | 234.7           | 0.175          | 0.675        | 161.6                           | 152.5           | 0.046          | 0.831       | 167.7       | 96.8            | 1.519          | 0.218        |
| 2021     | 113.5                   | 141.1           | 0.170          | 0.680        | 59.2        | 128.6           | 1.329          | 0.249        | 70.7                            | 77.4            | 0.003          | 0.959       | 41.4        | 65.6            | 0.533          | 0.465        |
| APC      | 3.4                     | 11.1            |                |              | 15.2        | 9.3             |                |              | 3.6                             | 10.8            |                |             | 14.7        | 4.7             |                |              |
| APC      | -30.0~5                 | -32.6~83.       |                |              | -55.2~1     | -28.3~66        |                |              | -30.5~54                        | -31.1~78        |                |             | -54.4~1     | -30.2~57.       |                |              |
| 95%CI    | 3.0                     | 0               |                |              | 96.3        | .5              |                |              | .5                              | .1              |                |             | 88.4        | 0               |                |              |
| t-value  | 0.3                     | 0.7             |                |              | 0.5         | 0.7             |                |              | 0.3                             | 0.7             |                |             | 0.5         | 0.4             |                |              |
| P-value† | 0.801                   | 0.551           |                |              | 0.665       | 0.550           |                |              | 0.797                           | 0.542           |                |             | 0.668       | 0.742           |                |              |

Abbreviations: APC, annual percentage change.

# P-Value for chi-square comparison between two groups.

† P-Value for APC comparison over five years.

*P* < 0.05 is indicated in bold, \* *P* < 0.05, \*\* *P* < 0.01, \*\*\* *P* < 0.001.



**Figure S6.** The all-ages and age-standardized mortality rates of stroke by gender in endemic and non-endemic groups in Changwu Town from 2017 to 2021 (per 100,000).

**Table S10.** The prevalence and mortality rates of stroke in different current water fluoride (CWF) groups in Changwu Town from 2017 to 2021 (per 100,000).

| Year     | All-ages prevalence rate |                  |                       |                   | Age-standardized prevalence rate |                  |                       |                   | All-ages mortality rate |                 |                |              | Age-standardized mortality rate |                 |                |              |
|----------|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
|          | CWF ≤<br>1 mg/L          | CWF ><br>1 mg/L  | Chi-squa<br>re        | P-valu<br>e#      | CWF ≤ 1<br>mg/L                  | CWF > 1<br>mg/L  | Chi-squ<br>are        | P-valu<br>e#      | CWF ≤<br>1 mg/L         | CWF ><br>1 mg/L | Chi-s<br>quare | P-val<br>ue# | CWF ≤<br>1 mg/L                 | CWF ><br>1 mg/L | Chi-s<br>quare | P-val<br>ue# |
|          |                          |                  |                       |                   |                                  |                  |                       |                   |                         |                 |                |              |                                 |                 |                |              |
| 2017     | 3131.1                   | 949.6            | <b>127.193</b><br>*** | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 2129.7                           | 636.2            | <b>88.159*</b><br>**  | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 107.1                   | 129.1           | 0.235          | 0.628        | 59.8                            | 68.6            | 0.044          | 0.833        |
| 2018     | 4221.4                   | 1240.2           | <b>173.774</b><br>*** | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 2868.4                           | 839.5            | <b>119.748</b><br>*** | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 160.4                   | 149.2           | 0.046          | 0.831        | 93.8                            | 83.0            | 0.051          | 0.822        |
| 2019     | 5106.5                   | 1509.8           | <b>206.565</b><br>*** | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 3448.4                           | 1024.3           | <b>140.850</b><br>*** | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 263.0                   | 253.2           | 0.021          | 0.886        | 151.3                           | 136.0           | 0.055          | 0.815        |
| 2020     | 5775.2                   | 1779.7           | <b>221.420</b><br>*** | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 3890.6                           | 1233.1           | <b>146.027</b><br>*** | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 238.9                   | 301.3           | 0.808          | 0.369        | 137.8                           | 146.4           | 0.078          | 0.780        |
| 2021     | 6397.0                   | 2218.0           | <b>210.326</b><br>*** | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 4293.6                           | 1540.2           | <b>136.997</b><br>*** | <<br><b>0.001</b> | 103.2                   | 123.2           | 0.197          | 0.657        | 64.3                            | 69.4            | 0.033          | 0.855        |
| APC      | <b>18.0**</b>            | <b>22.6***</b>   |                       |                   | <b>17.6**</b>                    | <b>23.70***</b>  |                       |                   | 6.7                     | 11.9            |                |              | 6.1                             | 9.4             |                |              |
| APC      | 9.9~26.                  | 19.2~26          |                       |                   | 9.5~26.4                         | 20.60~26         |                       |                   | -38.7~8                 | -33.1~8         |                |              | -38.5~                          | -35.1~          |                |              |
| 95%CI    | 8                        | .1               |                       |                   | .9                               |                  |                       |                   | 5.7                     | 7.2             |                |              | 82.9                            | 84.3            |                |              |
| t-value  | 7.4                      | 23.0             |                       |                   | 7.2                              | 26.3             |                       |                   | 0.4                     | 0.7             |                |              | 0.3                             | 0.5             |                |              |
| P-value† | <b>0.005</b>             | <b>&lt;0.001</b> |                       |                   | <b>0.006</b>                     | <b>&lt;0.001</b> |                       |                   | 0.734                   | 0.536           |                |              | 0.753                           | 0.624           |                |              |

Abbreviations: APC, annual percentage change; CWF, current water fluoride.

# P-Value for chi-square comparison between two groups.

† P-Value for APC comparison over five years.

P < 0.05 is indicated in bold, \* P<0.05, \*\* P<0.01, \*\*\* P<0.001.

**Table S11.** The prevalence and mortality rates of stroke in groups with different water improvement period (years) in Changwu Town from 2017 to 2021 (per 100,000).

| Year             | All-ages prevalence rate |              |               |               |               |           | Age-standardized prevalence rate |              |              |              |               |               | All-ages mortality rate |              |       |       |             |           | Age-standardized mortality rate |              |       |       |             |           |              |              |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------|--------------|-------|-------|-------------|-----------|---------------------------------|--------------|-------|-------|-------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|
|                  | Non-en demic areas       | 6~10         | 11~15         | 16~20         | Chi-sq uare   | P-val ue# | Non-en demic areas               | 6~10         | 11~15        | 16~20        | Chi-sq uare   | P-val ue#     | Non-en demic areas      | 6~10         | 11~15 | 16~20 | Chi-sq uare | P-val ue# | Non-en demic areas              | 6~10         | 11~15 | 16~20 | Chi-sq uare | P-val ue# |              |              |
| 2017             | 1298.1                   | 3126.7       | 1869.9        | 4864.2        | <b>139.52</b> | < 2***    | <b>0.001</b>                     | 829.9        | 2293.8       | 1280.1       | 3825.1        | <b>135.92</b> | < 4***                  | <b>0.001</b> | 128.2 | 44.7  | 187.0       | 87.6      | 3.851                           | 0.278        | 65.9  | 29.8  | 148.7       | 38.4      | 6.122        | 0.106        |
| 2018             | 1679.8                   | 4326.8       | 2717.4        | 6051.2        | <b>168.96</b> | < 2***    | <b>0.001</b>                     | 1094.5       | 3154.5       | 1867.1       | 4696.4        | <b>157.99</b> | < 9***                  | <b>0.001</b> | 139.3 | 112.7 | 271.7       | 133.5     | 3.999                           | 0.262        | 76.5  | 70.7  | 218.2       | 66.2      | 7.468        | 0.058        |
| 2019             | 2020.1                   | 5364.6       | 3226.2        | 7203.2        | <b>203.76</b> | < 4***    | <b>0.001</b>                     | 1342.5       | 3851.0       | 2188.7       | 5470.0        | <b>178.21</b> | < 9***                  | <b>0.001</b> | 264.9 | 112.7 | 488.0       | 133.4     | <b>12.510</b>                   | <b>0.006</b> | 137.1 | 61.3  | 344.0       | 65.8      | <b>13.65</b> | <b>0.003</b> |
| 2020             | 2442.2                   | 5790.5       | 3826.3        | 7862.4        | <b>186.70</b> | < 9***    | <b>0.001</b>                     | 1641.8       | 4141.9       | 2565.8       | 5911.3        | <b>160.71</b> | < 2***                  | <b>0.001</b> | 266.7 | 294.1 | 190.0       | 357.4     | 1.609                           | 0.657        | 126.8 | 162.1 | 166.1       | 202.5     | 1.373        | 0.712        |
| 2021             | 3010.7                   | 6101.0       | 4350.2        | 8610.9        | <b>159.31</b> | < 0***    | <b>0.001</b>                     | 2020.0       | 4341.9       | 2958.3       | 6421.2        | <b>139.95</b> | < 4***                  | <b>0.001</b> | 135.3 | 113.0 | 80.6        | 45.3      | 1.765                           | 0.622        | 72.6  | 85.9  | 68.4        | 20.5      | 1.859        | 0.602        |
| APC              | <b>20.2*</b>             | <b>16.2*</b> | <b>21.1**</b> | <b>14.5**</b> |               |           |                                  | <b>21.1*</b> | <b>15.3*</b> | <b>20.80</b> | <b>13.00*</b> |               |                         |              | -30.1 | 32.8  | -6.2        | 31.5      |                                 |              | -27.7 | 31.9  | -6.9        | 46.1      |              |              |
| APC<br>95%<br>CI | 25.1~32                  | 4.3~29       | 12.0~30       | 8.4~20        | .0            | .5        | .9                               | .9           |              | 27.0~28      | 3.8~28        | 11.8~         | 7.4~18                  |              |       |       | 76.0~0      | -37.7~18  | -60.7~12                        | -47.5~22     |       |       | 65.6~0      | -27.0~13  | -55.1~9      | -45.3~29     |
| t-value          | 4.4                      | 4.4          | 7.8           | 7.9           |               |           |                                  | 4.3          | 4.3          | 7.8          | 7.7           |               |                         |              | 1.2   | 1.2   | -0.2        | 0.9       |                                 |              | 1.5   | 1.5   | -0.3        | 1.2       |              |              |
| P-val<br>ue†     | <b>0.022</b>             | <b>0.022</b> | <b>0.004</b>  | <b>0.004</b>  |               |           |                                  | <b>0.023</b> | <b>0.023</b> | <b>0.004</b> | <b>0.005</b>  |               |                         |              | 0.318 | 0.318 | 0.828       | 0.412     |                                 |              | 0.233 | 0.233 | 0.777       | 0.307     |              |              |

Abbreviations: APC, annual percentage change.

# P-Value for chi-square comparison among four groups.

† P-Value for APC comparison over five years.

P < 0.05 is indicated in bold, \* P < 0.05, \*\* P < 0.01, \*\*\* P < 0.001.

**Table S12.** The prevalence and mortality rates of stroke in different WFCEI groups in Changwu Town from 2017 to 2021 (per 100,000).

| Year     | All-ages prevalence rate |              |              |                   |                  | Age-standardized prevalence rate |              |              |                 |              | All-ages mortality rate |                |                |                 |              | Age-standardized mortality rate |                |                |                 |              |       |
|----------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|-------|
|          | Tertile 1                | Tertile 2    | Tertile 3    | Chi-square        | P-value<br>#     | Tertile 1                        | Tertile 2    | Tertile 3    | Chi-sq<br>ue    | P-value<br># | Tertile 1               | Tertile 2      | Tertile 3      | Chi-sq<br>uare  | P-val<br>ue# | Tertile 1                       | Tertile 2      | Tertile 3      | Chi-sq<br>uare  | P-val<br>ue# |       |
| 2017     | 1379.3                   | 2765.3       | 3054.3       | <b>63.200***</b>  | <b>&lt;0.001</b> | 896.0                            | 2001.8       | 2211.4       | <b>56.498**</b> | <b>*</b>     | <b>&lt;0.001</b>        | 127.7          | 131.7          | 98.0            | 0.355        | 0.837                           | 61.7           | 79.2           | 78.3            | 0.491        | 0.782 |
| 2018     | 1821.6                   | 3653.6       | 4153.9       | <b>86.584***</b>  | <b>&lt;0.001</b> | 1201.2                           | 2629.2       | 3002.9       | <b>74.577**</b> | <b>*</b>     | <b>&lt;0.001</b>        | 95.9           | 286.1          | 182.8           | 7.698        | 0.021                           | 58.1           | 132.9          | 110.0           | 2.403        | 0.301 |
| 2019     | 2131.4                   | 4620.7       | 5006.7       | <b>113.902***</b> | <b>&lt;0.001</b> | 1438.9                           | 3249.0       | 3559.5       | <b>89.051**</b> | <b>*</b>     | <b>&lt;0.001</b>        | 281.8          | 152.6          | 317.1           | 2.924        | 0.232                           | 145.3          | 72.3           | 222.9           | 4.126        | 0.127 |
| 2020     | 2518.5                   | 5179.2       | 5533.3       | <b>110.811***</b> | <b>&lt;0.001</b> | 1721.7                           | 3609.7       | 3924.1       | <b>84.364**</b> | <b>*</b>     | <b>&lt;0.001</b>        | 257.2          | 240.4          | 334.3           | 1.093        | 0.579                           | 123.1          | 125.8          | 230.7           | 3.249        | 0.197 |
| 2021     | 3176.6                   | 5437.3       | 6006.7       | <b>79.835***</b>  | <b>&lt;0.001</b> | 2166.9                           | 3779.0       | 4259.3       | <b>62.201**</b> | <b>*</b>     | <b>&lt;0.001</b>        | 135.0          | 131.0          | 66.6            | 1.710        | 0.425                           | 75.0           | 64.8           | 102.2           | 0.508        | 0.776 |
| APC      | <b>21.9***</b>           | <b>17.3*</b> | <b>16.6*</b> |                   |                  | <b>23.4***</b>                   | <b>16.1*</b> | <b>16.0*</b> |                 |              |                         | 12.3           | -3.7           | 15.6            |              |                                 | 11.5           | -3.4           | 15.0            |              |       |
| 95%CI    | 17.7~26.<br>2            | 6.8~28.8     | 7.3~26.8     |                   |                  | 29.4~27.<br>5                    | 6.2~26.<br>9 | 6.9~25.9     |                 |              |                         | -35.5~95<br>.6 | -39.4~5<br>3.1 | -49.5~1<br>64.8 |              |                                 | -33.0~85<br>.6 | -35.4~4<br>4.5 | -37.1~11<br>0.4 |              |       |
| t-value  | 18.0                     | 5.4          | 5.8          |                   |                  | 20.3                             | 5.3          | 5.8          |                 |              |                         | 0.7            | -0.3           | 0.6             |              |                                 | 0.7            | -0.3           | 0.7             |              |       |
| P-value† | <b>&lt;0.001</b>         | <b>0.012</b> | <b>0.010</b> |                   |                  | <b>&lt;0.001</b>                 | <b>0.013</b> | <b>0.010</b> |                 |              |                         | 0.552          | 0.813          | 0.616           |              |                                 | 0.546          | 0.804          | 0.515           |              |       |

Note: APC, annual percentage change; WFCEI, water fluoride cumulative exposure index.

# P-Value for chi-square comparison among three groups.

† P-Value for APC comparison over five years.

*P* < 0.05 is indicated in bold, \* *P* < 0.05, \*\* *P* < 0.01, \*\*\* *P* < 0.001.