



Hidden River Cloud Network/One Challenge
Safer Alternatives to Mercury Amalgam in Dentistry (SafeAMER)
Laura Henze Russell, Founder and Principal

End the hidden river of mercury in our bodies, ourselves, environment, futures

20+ Questions on Mercury Dental Amalgam: Did You Know?

ADA

1. The ADA was founded 159 years ago as a pro-amalgam trade association, with patents on it?
2. A 1990 60 Minutes special, *Is There Poison in Your Mouth?*, the highest-watched 60 Minutes show at the time, was immediately pulled and never again shown or referred to on network TV?
3. The ADA put two gag order clauses in its Code of Ethics saying that dentists who promote removal of amalgam for health reasons will be expelled, and expels dentists?
4. Center for Responsive Politics calls ADA a ‘heavy hitter’ for campaign contributions, legal expenses?
5. ?

DENTISTS AND DENTAL PLANS

6. There are grave health warnings on mercury amalgam that dentists receive from manufacturers?
7. Most, 53 percent of dentists don’t use amalgam any more, out of concerns for safety or environment?
8. Dentists who want to teach at US dental schools keep quiet any concerns or reservations about the health impacts of amalgam?
9. Dental plans are not cost neutral, the vast majority only pay the amount it would cost to put more amalgam back in the back of your mouth, despite medical proof of toxicity?
10. Many dentists are very busy replacing and removing old amalgams, but do not talk about or report it?
11. ?

DIAGNOSTIC TESTS AND REPORTING

12. Blood, urine and hair tests for mercury levels are not that reliable with false negatives, as how your metabolism processes mercury determines if it shows up in tests, or stays in body, cells and brain?
13. More reliable tests for mercury damage may include urine challenge tests administered with an oral chelator, testing urinary porphyrin levels, and testing glutathione levels?
14. A biocompatibility blood test can determine, among the vast quantity of dental metals and materials, to which your own immune system are most reactive, somewhat reactive and least reactive?
15. A blood test can determine your ApoE gene type?
16. Reporting amalgam reactions is not mandatory, nor billable, is confusing, so rarely happens?
17. The FDA considers sensitivity or reactivity reactions rare, because they are rarely reported?
18. You can and should report adverse events to the FDA, and also report unsafe medical devices?
19. You can and should also report adverse events to the State Dental Board, and Poison Control Hotline?
20. ?

FDA

21. Mercury amalgam is considered a medical device, not a substance, by the FDA?
22. The FDA grandfathered it “generally recognized as safe,” never rigorously tested or proven safe?
23. As a result of a lawsuit, the FDA added a guidance document in 2009 stating that mixed metals should not be used in the same or abutting teeth, because it creates galvanic micro-electrical currents that can degrade mercury in amalgam?
24. The FDA Commissioner recused herself because she sat on the board of an amalgam distributor?
25. The FDA ignored recommendations of its own Scientific Advisory Panels in 2010 to restrict its use among children, pregnant women and people with a known allergy to mercury?
26. ?

(over)



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20+ Questions on Mercury Dental Amalgam: Did You Know? (continued)

GENES AND IMMUNE SYSTEM

27. People with the ApoE4 gene type do not clear mercury well, so have higher rates of toxicity to it?
28. People with the ApoE4 gene have higher rates of Alzheimers, autoimmune and movement disorders?
29. Mercury can impact your immune system and make you reactive to it over time?
30. Mercury can cause allergies and skin reactions to yeasts, sugars, wheat, gluten, corn and soy?
31. Monkeys and sheep with amalgam placed in their teeth immediately start redistributing it throughout their bodies and brains? And get very ill pretty quick when amalgam is put in their teeth?
32. ?

HEALTH AND HEALTH IMPACTS

33. We pass mercury on to our children via the placenta and breast milk?
34. There are changes in children's urinary porphyrins evident soon after amalgam is installed?
35. Loss of teeth does not protect one from mercury poisoning, as the body and brain burden persists if one does not clear mercury well, or follow an effective, medically supervised detox protocol?
36. Populations with high amalgam exposures include midlifers, boomers and older adults, Native Americans, enlisted personnel and veterans, and all who don't know or can't afford alternatives?
37. Crematoria are exempt from adequate pollution controls, and have no provisions to remove mercury amalgam dental fillings prior to cremation?
38. Health disparities and chronic health problems have proven correlations with amalgam exposure, but this is not considered sufficient proof to act to ban or restrict its use?
39. The lead author of the Children's Amalgam Trial in Portugal, James S. Woods, published a new study reanalyzing data by gender and found amalgam causes neurobehavioral and kidney damage in boys?
40. Thomas Duplinsky of Yale School of Medicine published a new study that finds dentists have higher Rx use for neurological, psychological, cardiovascular & respiratory diseases than matched controls?
41. ?

OTHER NATIONS

42. Amalgam was banned in Norway and Denmark in 2008, Sweden in 2009?
43. The third largest Israeli dental plan will not pay for amalgams in children?
44. A Midwest engineering company that self-insures pays for amalgam removal to protect the health of its employees, and only pays for fillings using safer, biocompatible alternatives?
45. The World Health Organization has called for its end in dentistry, and the U.N. Environment Programme has an international treaty being negotiated among 100+ nations to phase out its use in dentistry worldwide?
46. The EEC is laying the groundwork to follow Scandinavian countries and stop using it?
47. ?

WHAT STATES CAN DO (AND NOT)

48. Courts have ruled that states cannot ban amalgam because of the Interstate Commerce Clause, as long as the FDA maintains it is safe, despite the recommendations of its Scientific Advisory Panel?
49. That there are no informed consents required or health warnings shared with patients, except in the four informed consent states of Maine, California, Connecticut and Vermont, and Philadelphia, PA?
50. What can we do? What ideas do you have? What can you do? What can we all do together?



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