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Betreff: Factsheet Mercury

To
"Stay Healthy, Stop Mercury"
Health Care Without Harm Europe (HCWH) Europe Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL)

subject: Factsheet "Mercury and Dental Amalgams", May 2007
(source: http://www.env-health.org/IMG/pdf/HEA_009-07.pdf)

Thank you for your commitment in fighting for a mercury free world. Our organisation BBFU works in Germany against the use of amalgam and for the support of patients, who are victims of the use of mercury in medicine.

Unfortunately the factsheet, which is published by the Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL) and Health Care Without Harm Europe (HCWH), contains misleading and false facts and therefore puts our success at risk.

In the following text I will give some quotations from your paper and my comment.

"The second largest use of mercury in Europe is for dental amalgams."

"In its Mercury Strategy, the European Commission has recognized that as the chlor-alkali industry phases out mercury cells, dental amalgam will become the major use of mercury in the EU."

Formally Ok.

But you should take in account, that mercury in the chlor-alkali industry is used far away (hundreds or thousands of kilometers) from most people of the EU, while amalgam is used only a few centimeters apart from their brain.

This difference is important.

"While in some studies health effects have been observed, there is no general scientific consensus on the significance of these exposures in the general population. The absorbed mercury is excreted by the body and enters the waste water systems, ..."

What do you doubt? The exposure of amalgam fillings bearers to mercury? You should know it, because you described it in detail in your paper! The negative health effects from this exposure to mercury? General negative health effects of mercury? About mercury exposure from dental amalgam you can find much more studies than from any other mercury exposure. But first you have to sort out the biased studies. Therefore there should be no doubt about the negative health effects from this exposure to mercury.

Your statement is disastrously wrong. If mercury would have no negative health effect on humans (and plants and animals), than your and our effort to ban mercury would be abundant and an unnecessary waste of time and effort.

I am convinced, that you know a lot about negative health effects of mercury, e.g. damage to the central nervous system and to the immune system.

I cannot understand and cannot accept your statement "there is no general scientific consensus ...".

Mercury is a very hazardous material, because it accumulates in all biologic living systems, including humans. Accumulation means ** no excretion ** (or very limited excretion). This was proven by studies with dead bodies. The amount of this very limited excretion depends mainly on the genetic disposition of the being.

Note:

There are a lot of biased, misleading studies on this subject. Amalgam promoters like to refer on those. Maybe you are trapped in those studies. If you want to see how "scientists" are able to produce methodically wrong studies, please read "Amalgam studies: Disregarding basic principles of mercury toxicity" (2004) by Dr. J. Mutter et al. (Link: http://www.iaglx2.de/amnet/docs/pdf/amalgam_englisch.pdf)

" ... dental assistants have reported significantly higher occurrence of neurotoxic symptoms, such as memory disturbance, tremor and anxiety and depression due to their direct and continuing exposure to mercury in dental office."

Just these symptoms are seen also at patients with amalgam fillings.

Dental assistants are exposed to mercury during their worktime, e.g. 40 hours per week.

During the rest of the week their body is able to recreate from this exposure. However amalgam fillings bearers are exposed during 7*24 hours per week, i.e. permanently. There is no time to recreate.

Dentists get nearly the same occupational exposure to mercury than dental assistants. In addition sometimes members of both groups have amalgam fillings.

Additional notes:

1. How is it explained, that the mercury strategy of EU and UNEP is based on the high neurotoxicity of mercury, but despite of this fact neurologists don't know a disease like chronic mercury poisoning of the CNS. Why is this a disease without patients?
2. How is it explained, that the generally accepted danger of mercury is based on its ability to be stored in biologic systems and as a result in the human food chain, but despite of this the storage of mercury in human tissues is often ignored in scientific contributions and in diagnosis and therapy of established medicine? Why does the scientific community accept this ignorance?
3. If mercury has to be eliminated from the human environment, then amalgam should be set on top of the mercury strategy agenda, because - in accordance with WHO - amalgam is the biggest source of human mercury exposure. Why don't even the environmental NGOs support the strong fight against amalgam, but they work on - compared to amalgam - ridiculous negligibilities like mercury in cremation fumes?

If you feel, that any of my statements should be proven, please feel free to write to me. There is a wealth of trustworthy, scientific studies about this subject.

I would be glad to see an answer from you.

Regards
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Bundesverband der Beratungsstellen für Umweltgifte, insbesondere Schwermetalle, Amalgam und Holzschutzmittel e.V. (BBFU)

Federal Association of information centres for environmental toxins, in particular amalgam, heavy metals and wood preservatives (registered society)

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