

1. Mercury concentrations in the human brain and kidneys in relation to exposure from dental amalgam fillings. (1987, Sweden)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/3481133>

Samples from the central nervous system (occipital lobe cortex, cerebellar cortex and ganglia semilunare) and kidney cortex were collected from autopsies and analysed for total mercury content using neutron activation analyses. Results from 34 individuals showed a statistically significant regression between the number of tooth surfaces containing amalgam and concentration of mercury in the occipital lobe cortex. ... The kidney cortex from 7 amalgam carriers (mean 433, range 48-810 ng Hg/g wet weight) showed on average a significantly higher mercury level than those of 5 amalgam-free individuals ... It is concluded that the cause of the association between amalgam load and accumulation of mercury in tissues is the release of mercury vapour from amalgam fillings.

2. Mercury accumulation in tissues from dental staff and controls in relation to exposure. (1989, Sweden)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/2603127>

Samples, mainly from occipital cortex and pituitary gland, but also from renal cortex, olfactory bulbs, thyroid gland and liver were collected from autopsies of 8 dental staff cases and 27 controls. These samples were analysed for total mercury content ... The results revealed high mercury concentrations (median 815, range 135-4,040 micrograms Hg/kg wet weight) in pituitaries from the dental staff cases compared to controls Renal cortex was analysed from three cases and contained clearly higher concentrations ... There is no control material for the other analysed samples, but one thyroid sample had an extremely high concentration of 28,000 micrograms Hg/kg.

3. Mercury from dental amalgams: exposure and effects (1992, Sweden)

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23510804>

.. mercury from amalgam may well contribute significantly to a number of modern health problems and to decreased quality of life in a large population group in many countries. Erroneous opinion as to "negligible" mercury exposure and lack of cooperation between the dental, medical and other professions are two important factors in the issue. There is both biological and metallurgical evidence that typical Hg-exposure levels produced by amalgam fillings are 5-10-fold higher than what are regarded as safe limits for exposure to mercury from other sources. There is no doubt that dental mercury should be taken into consideration as a possible etiological factor when considering neurological, immunological and endocrinological diseases of unknown etiology.

4. Long-term mercury excretion in urine after removal of amalgam fillings. (1994, Sweden)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/7814102>

Within 12 months the geometric mean of the mercury excretion was reduced by a factor of 5 from 1.44 micrograms/g (range: 0.57-4.38 micrograms/g) to 0.36 microgram/g (range: 0.13-0.88 microgram/g). ... These results show that the release of mercury from dental amalgam contributes predominantly to the mercury exposure of non-occupationally exposed persons. The exposure from amalgam fillings thus exceeds the exposure from food, air and beverages.

5. Dental mercury--a public health hazard. (1994, Sweden)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/8029522>

The aim of this review is to point out the health hazards of the uncontrolled global use of implanted mercury-leaking dental amalgam fillings. In spite of the pandemic use of amalgam, most dentists and doctors are still ignorant about the levels of mercury exposure and its health implications.

6. Human exposure to mercury and silver released from dental amalgam restorations. (1994, Sweden)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/7944571>

In 35 healthy individuals, the number of amalgam surfaces was related to the emission rate of mercury into the oral cavity and to the excretion rate of mercury by urine. Oral emission ranged up to 125 micrograms Hg/24 h, and urinary excretions ranged from 0.4 to 19 micrograms Hg/24 h. In 10 cases, urinary and fecal excretions of mercury and silver were also measured. Fecal excretions ranged from 1 to 190 micrograms Hg/24 h and from 4 to 97 micrograms Ag/24 h. Except for urinary silver excretion, a high interplay between the variables was exhibited. The worst-case individual showed a fecal mercury excretion amounting to 100 times the mean intake of total Hg from a normal Swedish diet. With regard to a Swedish middle-age individual, the systemic uptake of mercury from amalgam was, on average, predicted to be 12 micrograms Hg/24 h.

7. Poison In The Mouth, PANORAMA, BBC (1994)

<https://youtu.be/9MytAMiKiRc>

28:30 – interview with Siw Persson, member of Swedish parliament

Faced with opposition from the dental lobbies and anxious at the potential legal implications parliament carefully wrapped the legislation up in a total environmental package. The members of Parliament who pushed for the ban knew what the real targets were. "People say that the only reason the Swedes are banning dental amalgam is on environmental grounds. Now is that true?" Siw Persson: "No, really not. It's one reason. But the most important reason is of course of health reasons". "Why is Sweden the first country to ban dental amalgam, because there's still no evidence, there is no final proof that dental amalgam actually hurts human beings". Siw Persson: "We said we have seen enough. Now we have to stop it before much more people are more sick than they are today".

8. Mercury in saliva and feces after removal of amalgam fillings. (1997, Sweden)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/9169079>

Before removal, the median Hg concentration in feces was more than 10 times higher than in samples from an amalgam free reference group consisting of 10 individuals (2.7 vs 0.23 $\mu\text{mol Hg/kg}$ dry weight, $p < 0.001$). A considerable increase of the Hg concentration in feces 2 days after amalgam removal (median 280 $\mu\text{mol Hg/kg}$ dry weight) was followed by a significant decrease. Sixty days after removal the median Hg concentration was still slightly higher than in samples from the reference group. In plasma, the median Hg concentration was 4 nmol/liter at baseline. Two days after removal the median Hg concentration in plasma was increased to 5 nmol/liter and declined subsequently to 1.3 nmol/liter by Day 60.

9. Mercury levels in plasma and urine after removal of all amalgam restorations: the effect of using rubber dams. (1997, Sweden)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/9823089>

RESULTS: .. After removal of all amalgam restorations, only the non-rubber dam group showed significant increases in the mercury levels found in plasma ($p = 0.012$) and urine ($p = 0.037$). However, one year later, the mercury levels in plasma and urine had sunk significantly below the pre-removal levels for both groups. SIGNIFICANCE: The study showed that dental amalgam had a statistically significant impact on the mercury levels found in plasma and urine in the patients tested, and that the use of a rubber dam during removal of all amalgam restorations significantly reduced the peak of mercury in plasma following removal.

10. Increased mercury emissions from modern dental amalgams (2017, Sweden)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5352807/>

Abstract: All types of dental amalgams contain mercury, which partly is emitted as mercury vapor. All types of dental amalgams corrode after being placed in the oral cavity. Modern high copper amalgams exhibit two new traits of increased instability. Firstly, when subjected to wear/polishing, droplets rich in mercury are formed on the surface, showing that mercury is not being strongly bonded to the base or alloy metals. Secondly, high copper amalgams emit substantially larger amounts of mercury vapor than the low copper amalgams used before the 1970s. High copper amalgams has been developed with focus on mechanical strength and corrosion resistance, but has been sub-optimized in other aspects, resulting in increased instability and higher emission of mercury vapor. This has not been presented to policy makers and scientists. Both low and high copper amalgams undergo a transformation process for several years after placement, resulting in a substantial reduction in mercury content, but **there exist no limit for maximum allowed emission of mercury from dental amalgams**. These modern high copper amalgams are nowadays totally dominating the European, US and other markets, resulting in significant emissions of mercury, not considered when judging their suitability for dental restoration. ..

These new amalgams were initially not in accordance with the standard above, so ISO 1559 Ed. 2, 1986 (now withdrawn), was released updating the composition requirements to include alloys with high copper contents that already had been on the market for more than 10 years .. The present standard is ISO 24234 Ed.2, 2015, and includes other compositions, which have been on the market in violation of ISO 1559 Ed.2 .. ISO standards do not regulate the market for mercury fillings but products already on the market drive the development of these standards. ..

One outdated member of the family of mercury containing filling materials is the copper amalgam. It must not be mistaken for the low or high copper versions mentioned above. .. Copper amalgam is provided as small round or square tablets consisting of approx. 70% mercury and approx. 30% copper. Sometimes it is spiked with approx. 1% of cadmium (Örstavik 1985). .. In the Nordic countries, it was predominantly used in children with extensive caries, but was sometimes also used in adults. The latest documented use in Sweden is from 1981 and in Norway it was used as late as 1994 (Kromberg and Röynesdal 1994). It was sold in Europe as late as 2001 (Produits Dentaires SA 2001). .. Copper amalgam is known for its high corrosion rate, giving it increased antibacterial effects (Örstavik 1985). In a document from the Nordic Institute of Dental Materials (NIOM), the head of the institute calculates that a child with copper amalgams in all molars (10 g) could be exposed to 2.3 g of mercury and 1.0 g of copper annually in a worst case scenario (Mjör 1981). ..

Droplets on the surface of non- γ_2 -amalgams: ... One would expect that droplets rich in mercury found on high copper fillings should have been published and discussed in journals commonly read by dental personnel, especially in an issue involving safety. As far as we can find, this has not happened. ..

Increased emission of mercury vapor in non- γ_2 -amalgams: ... In the four investigations above, the main researchers in dental amalgam are all reaching similar results. When the reducing oxide layer is removed, the emission of mercury is inversely related to the amount of tin in the gamma-1 phase. This oxide layer is very fragile, so touching the surface with a piece of cotton wool will result in higher levels of mercury vapor. ... Unfortunately, we cannot find any openly published information/discussion on increased emission of mercury vapor from modern amalgams in any journal commonly read by dental personnel. On the contrary, several big national and international dental organizations have stated that mercury fillings are stable. ..

Conclusion: **The non- γ_2 -amalgams** are marketed as superior in strength and corrosion resistance. When trying to meet these goals for development, a strong sub-optimization has occurred. In experimental set ups, these amalgams, **being introduced in the 1970s, emit about ten times more mercury vapor than the ones previously used**. Ordinary dental personnel, **politicians and other decision makers has not been informed about the instability of modern non- γ_2 -amalgams**.

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11. Field study on the mercury content of Saliva (University of Tübingen, Article in Toxicological & Environmental Chemistry- Volume 63, 1997)

20 000 subjects were enrolled in a large-scale field study to determine the concentration of total mercury in saliva. A statistical relationship was found between the mercury concentration in the pre-chewing saliva and chewing saliva, and the number of amalgam fillings. The mean number of amalgam fillings was 9 and the median mercury concentration was 11.6 µg/1 in the pre-chewing saliva and 29.3 µg/1 in the chewing saliva, which is considerably higher than reported in most previous publications. Extrapolation to the uptake of total mercury per week has shown that the provisional tolerable weekly intake (PTWI) value of the WHO is exceeded in at least 30% of the subjects. About a quarter of the total group had Hg concentrations in the pre-chewing saliva of up to 5 ug/1 and 96% of the values were less than 100 ug/1. In one percent of the subjects Hg concentrations >200 ug Hg/1 were measured, in 37 subjects the values were over 400 ug/1 and in 11 subjects over 1000 ug/1... The distribution curve for mercury in the chewing saliva clearly shifted to higher Hg concentrations. Values of less than 5 ug/1 were found in only 11% of the group and 90% of the values were less than 100 ug Hg/1. In 1.7% of the subjects Hg concentrations of >200 ug Hg/1 were measured, in 60 subjects the values were over 400 ug/1 and in 15 subjects over 1000 ug/1.

In the EU there can be at most 10 µg/L of lead and at most 1 µg/L of mercury in drinking water. Mercury is the most toxic non-radioactive element and probably there are reasons for such heavy metal limits in drinking water. Then what sense the saliva mercury levels measured in this amalgam study have? How can this be considered safe?

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12. Correlation of dental amalgam with mercury in brain tissue. (1987)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/3480359>

Data from this project demonstrate a positive correlation between the number of occlusal surfaces of dental amalgam and mercury levels in the brain (p less than .0025 in white matter). This is indirect evidence suggesting that mercury from dental amalgam fillings may contribute to the body burden of mercury in the brain.

13. Dental "silver" tooth fillings: a source of mercury exposure revealed by whole-body image scan and tissue analysis. (1989)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/2636872>

Mercury (Hg) vapor is released from dental "silver" tooth fillings into human mouth air after chewing, but its possible uptake routes and distribution among body tissues are unknown. This investigation demonstrates that when radioactive ²⁰³Hg is mixed with dental Hg/silver fillings (amalgam) and placed in teeth of adult sheep, the isotope will appear in various organs and tissues within 29 days. Evidence of Hg uptake, as determined by whole-body scanning and measurement of isotope in specific tissues, revealed three uptake sites: lung, gastrointestinal, and jaw tissue absorption. Once absorbed, high concentrations of dental amalgam Hg rapidly localize in kidneys and liver.

14. Whole-body imaging of the distribution of mercury released from dental fillings into monkey tissues. (1990)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/2227216>

The fate of mercury (Hg) released from dental "silver" amalgam tooth fillings into human mouth air is uncertain. A previous report about sheep revealed uptake routes and distribution of amalgam Hg among body tissues. The present investigation demonstrates the bodily distribution of amalgam Hg in a monkey whose dentition, diet, feeding regimen, and chewing pattern closely resemble those of humans. When amalgam fillings, which normally contain 50% Hg, are made with a tracer of radioactive ²⁰³Hg and then placed into monkey teeth, the isotope appears in high concentration in various organs and tissues within 4 wk. Whole-body images of the monkey revealed that the highest levels of Hg were located in the kidney, gastrointestinal tract, and jaw. The dental profession's advocacy of silver amalgam as a stable tooth restorative material is not supported by these findings.

15. Long-term dissolution of mercury from a non-mercury-releasing amalgam. (1991)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/1860296>

Abstract: .. This study examined the mercury release from a "non-mercury-releasing" dental amalgam, Composil, over a 104-week period. Four cylindrical specimens were incubated in 10 ml of purified water at 37 degrees C. The incubate was changed at the end of each 24-hour period and assayed for its mercury content at biweekly intervals. ... Results showed that the overall mean release of mercury was 43.5 +/- 3.2 micrograms/cm²/24 hr, and the amount of mercury released remained fairly constant during the duration of the experiment. This study showed that Composil releases mercury in quantities that far exceed those detected in other amalgam systems.

16. Urinary mercury after administration of 2,3-dimercaptopropane-1-sulfonic acid: correlation with dental amalgam score. (1992)

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/1563599>

http://www.keytoxins.com/hgbiblio-files/iaomt/iaomt_db/IMT_Aposhian_1992_FASEB.pdf

(Page 3: Table 1, Fig. 2 - amalgam wearers vs people without amalgams)

Two-thirds of the mercury excreted in the urine of those with dental amalgams appears to be derived originally from the mercury vapor released from their amalgams.

17. Significant mercury deposits in internal organs following the removal of dental amalgam (1996)

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/8914687>

In spite of considerable care not to inhale mercury vapor or swallow minute particles of dental amalgam during the process of removing it by drilling, mercury entered the body of the subject. Precautions such as the use of a rubber dam and strong air suction, as well as frequent water suctioning and washing of the mouth were insufficient. Significant deposits of mercury, previously non-existent, were found in the lungs, kidneys, endocrine organs, liver, and heart with abnormal low-voltage ECGs (similar to those recorded 1-3 weeks after i.v. injection of radioisotope Thallium-201 for Cardiac SPECT) in all the limb leads and V1 (but almost normal ECGs in the precordial leads V2-V6) the day after the procedures were performed. Enhanced mercury evaporation by increased temperature and microscopic amalgam particles created by drilling may have contributed to mercury entering the lungs and G.I. system and then the blood circulation, creating abnormal deposits of mercury in the organs named above.

How about removing amalgams during pregnancy? While this may be discouraged it likely does happen occasionally? Were these procedures ever evaluated from a safety perspective? Would it make sense to protect pregnant women by using rubber dams before doing any work on their existing amalgam fillings? What if a woman gets pregnant one day after her amalgam gets drilled out? Should rubber dams be used to protect all women at child-bearing age?

18. Marked elevation of myocardial trace elements in idiopathic dilated cardiomyopathy compared with secondary cardiac dysfunction. (1999)

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/10334427>

A large increase (>10,000 times for mercury and antimony) of TE concentration has been observed in myocardial but not in muscular samples in all pts with IDCM. Patients with secondary cardiac dysfunction had mild increase (< or = 5 times) of myocardial TE and normal muscular TE. In particular, in pts with IDCM mean mercury concentration was 22,000 times (178,400 ng/g vs. 8 ng/g), antimony 12,000 times (19,260 ng/g vs. 1.5 ng/g), gold 11 times (26 ng/g vs. 2.3 ng/g), chromium 13 times (2,300 ng/g vs. 177 ng/g) and cobalt 4 times (86,5 ng/g vs. 20 ng/g) higher than in control subjects. CONCLUSIONS: A large, significant increase of myocardial TE is present in IDCM but not in secondary cardiac dysfunction. The increased concentration of TE in pts with IDCM may adversely affect mitochondrial activity and myocardial metabolism and worsen cellular function.

Where does all this mercury come from?

19. Mercury exposure and early effects: an overview. (2002)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/12197264/>

RESULTS: In an uncontaminated environment the general population is exposed to mercury vapour from the atmosphere and from dental amalgam, while the diet, mainly from fish, is the principal source for methyl mercury absorption. Mercury vapour release from amalgam fillings increases with chewing, with absorption and uptake by the brain and kidneys. ..

CONCLUSIONS: As mercury can give rise to allergic and immunotoxic reactions which may be genetically regulated, in the absence of adequate dose-response studies for immunologically sensitive individuals, it has not been possible to set a level for mercury in blood or urine below which mercury related symptoms will not occur.

20. Maternal amalgam dental fillings as the source of mercury exposure in developing fetus and newborn. (2008)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17851449>

A strong positive correlation between maternal and cord blood Hg levels was found ($\rho=0.79$; $P<0.001$). Levels of Hg in the cord blood were significantly associated with the number of maternal amalgam fillings ($\rho=0.46$, $P<0.001$) and with the number of years since the last filling ($\rho=-0.37$, $P<0.001$); these associations remained significant after adjustment for maternal age and education.

21. Role of Mercury in Cardiovascular Disease (2011 Aug)

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21806773>

<https://www.omicsonline.org/open-access/the-role-of-mercury-in-cardiovascular-disease-2329-9517.1000170.php?aid=30773>

Abstract: Mercury has a high affinity for sulfhydryl groups, inactivating numerous enzymatic reactions, amino acids, and sulfur-containing antioxidants (N-acetyl-L-cysteine, alpha-lipoic acid, L-glutathione), with subsequent decreased oxidant defense and increased oxidative stress. Mercury binds to metallothionein and substitute for zinc, copper, and other trace metals, reducing the effectiveness of metalloenzymes. Mercury induces mitochondrial dysfunction with reduction in adenosine triphosphate, depletion of glutathione, and increased lipid peroxidation. ... The overall vascular effects of mercury include increased oxidative stress and inflammation, reduced oxidative defense, thrombosis, vascular smooth muscle dysfunction, endothelial dysfunction, dyslipidemia, and immune and mitochondrial dysfunction. The clinical consequences of mercury toxicity include hypertension, coronary heart disease, myocardial infarction, cardiac arrhythmias, reduced heart rate variability, increased carotid intima-media thickness and carotid artery obstruction, cerebrovascular accident, generalized atherosclerosis, and renal dysfunction, insufficiency, and proteinuria. Pathological, biochemical, and functional medicine correlations are significant and logical. Mercury diminishes the protective effect of fish and omega-3 fatty acids. Mercury inactivates catecholamine-O-methyl transferase (COMT), which increases serum and urinary epinephrine, norepinephrine, and dopamine.

.. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed that the safe daily intake of mercury is less than 0.1 microgram/kg/day. ... It is estimated that one dental amalgam filling releases about 3-17 micrograms of mercury vapor per day.

22. Is dental amalgam safe for humans? (2011)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3025977/>

It was claimed by the Scientific Committee on Emerging and Newly Identified Health Risks (**SCENIHR**) in a report to the EU-Commission that "...no risks of adverse systemic effects exist and the current use of dental amalgam does not pose a risk of systemic disease...". SCENIHR disregarded the toxicology of mercury and did not include most important scientific studies in their review. But the real scientific data show that: ... Dental amalgam is by far the main source of human total mercury body burden. This is proven by autopsy studies which found 2-12 times more mercury in body tissues of individuals with dental amalgam. The half-life of mercury in the brain can last from several years to decades. An approx. 2-5-fold increase of mercury levels in blood and urine in living individuals with dental amalgam as well as a 2-12 fold increase in several body tissues was observed in deceased individuals with dental amalgam. Additionally, studies with animals have confirmed the fact that dental amalgam leads to significantly increased levels in the tissues. According to these studies, dental amalgam is responsible for at least 60-95% of mercury deposits in human tissues. Mercury vapor inhalation in doses which also occur in humans with many amalgam fillings and chewing led to pathological changes in the brains of animals after 14 days. The average mercury level in the brain of EU citizens with more than 12 amalgam fillings was 300 ng Hg/g brain tissue [11], which is well above mercury levels proven to be toxic in vitro on neurons. Mercury levels in thyroid- and pituitary glands were 55 ng Hg/g and 200 ng Hg/g respectively and again, these levels correlates significantly with numbers of amalgam fillings. The average mercury load in brain tissues of individuals with Alzheimer's disease was 20 to 178 ng Hg/g; in some cases the load exceeded up to (236- 698 ng Hg/g). ... It must be noted that about 30-50% of German people above the age of 85 years have Alzheimer's disease (AD) and there are many hints that mercury plays the major pathogenic role in AD. Maternal amalgam fillings lead to a significant increase of mercury levels in fetal and infant body tissues including the brain. Drasch et al. found mercury levels of up to 20 ng Hg/g in German infant brain tissues which were mainly caused by dental amalgam fillings of their mothers. Mercury has been shown to be 10 times more toxic than lead (Pb) in vitro [88-90]. Mercury is the most toxic non-radioactive element. Mercury vapor is one of the most toxic forms of mercury along with some of the organic mercury compounds. ... Mercury vapor from amalgam penetrate into tissues with great ease, because of its monopolar atomic configuration. ...Once inside the cells, mercury vapor is oxidized to Hg²⁺, the very toxic form of mercury which binds covalently to thiol groups of proteins inhibiting their biological activity. Hg²⁺ is more toxic than Pb²⁺, Cadmium (Cd²⁺) and other metals because it has a higher affinity due to "covalent bond" formation with thiol groups (cysteines in proteins) causing irreversible inhibition. in contrast to test animals in experiments, humans are exposed to many other toxins simultaneously ... it has been proven that the combination of the Lethal Dose 1% of mercury (LD1Hg) together with the LD1 of lead (Pb) results in the death of all animals, so the following toxicological equation can be assumed: LD1 (Hg) + LD1 (Pb) = LD 100 Dental amalgam fillings have been found to cause DNA damage in human blood cells. [115]. Even low levels of inorganic mercury lead to significant DNA damage in human tissue cells and lymphocytes. ... Constant low-dose mercury exposure, as is common in amalgam bearers, has been considered a possible cause for certain autoimmune diseases, e.g. multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis or systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE). Recent brain pathology studies have revealed elevations in mercury levels and mercury-associated oxidative stress markers in patients diagnosed with autistic disorders. Autistic children show decreased levels of the natural mercury chelator glutathione [272]; it is known that mercury is capable of causing this phenomenon [273]. Some studies which found no associations between mercury exposure and autism have severe methodical flaws....

The **SCENIHR** amalgam expert group consisted of one engineer (chairman), four dentists, a toxicologist and two veterinarians. The chairman has tight contacts to the industry. No experts for medicine or environmental medicine were included. One must wonder why it were the dentists who represented the strongest party in SCENIHR. Due to their education and clinical experience, dentist are not able to judge medical systemic adverse side effects caused by dental amalgam, like multiple sclerosis, autism, autoimmunity, Alzheimer's disease, psychiatric diseases etc ... Every amalgam patent has been produced according to dental organisations specifications.... the strategies of organized dentistry used to influence science and politics over the last decades [287-290] may be analogous to other well known topics with existing conflicts of interest.

Dental and other health organization across Europe and beyond rely on SCENIHR amalgam reports. But if I can be sarcastic, the situation here seems similar as if tobacco industry would evaluate the safety of cigarettes and our health institutions would rely upon their opinion. When providing such important health reports and guidelines for a continent of 500 million people one surely has all means to obtain precise data for each amalgam on the market; for starters how much mercury does it release sitting quietly in a test tube at 37C. The next iteration could be to simulate brushing, chewing. Did SCENIHR deliver that?

23. Mercury release of amalgams with various silver contents after exposure to bleaching agent (2016)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4946001/>

Background: Since it is possible for carbamide peroxide (CP) bleaching agent to contact old amalgam restorations... Results: The amount of mercury released after exposure to CP was significantly higher than that released after exposure to buffered phosphate ($P < 0.001$). In addition, the amount of mercury released from dental amalgam with a silver content of 43% was significantly higher than that released from dental amalgam with a silver content of 69% ($P < 0.001$).

24. Prenatal mercury exposure, neurodevelopment and apolipoprotein E genetic polymorphism. (2017)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/27616663>

The results showed negative association between low-to-moderate Hg exposure in children with normal neurodevelopmental outcome and cognitive and fine motor scores at 18 months of age as assessed by Bayley III. The Hg-related decrease in cognitive score was observed only in children carrying at least one Apoe $\epsilon 4$ allele, while the decrease in fine motor scores was independent of the Apoe genotype.

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25. The rise and fall of pink disease. (1997 Aug)

Ancestry of pink disease (infantile acrodynia) identified as a risk factor for autism spectrum disorders. (2011 Sep)

Genetic variation associated with hypersensitivity to mercury (2014 Dec)

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/11619497>

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21797771>

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25948960>

"This paper explores the social and medical history and context of pink disease (acrodynia), a serious disease of infants and young children that baffled the medical world during the first half of the twentieth century until it was shown to be caused by mercury poisoning. In the English-speaking world the commonest source of the mercury was teething powders, which were widely available and advertised with increasing sophistication. Efforts to control them (such as the BMJ's campaign against 'Secret Remedies') were as yet unsuccessful. ... The resistance to the evidence of mercury poisoning is typical of resistance to new medical knowledge and declined only when the opponents and sceptics grew old and disappeared from the scene."

"The results showed the prevalence rate of ASD among the grandchildren of pink disease survivors (1 in 22) to be significantly higher than the comparable general population prevalence rate (1 in 160). The results support the hypothesis that Hg sensitivity may be a heritable/genetic risk factor for ASD."

"Survivors of pink disease (PD; infantile acrodynia) are a population of clinically identifiable individuals who are Hg sensitive... Analyses revealed significant differences between groups in genotype frequencies for rs662 in the gene encoding paraoxanase 1 (PON1) and rs1801131 in the gene encoding methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase (MTHFR)."

26. Safety and efficacy of oral DMSA therapy for children with autism spectrum disorders: Part A - Medical results (2009)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2774660/>

It is very interesting that mercury, and only mercury, has a significant negative correlation with RBC glutathione, and again suggests the special importance and toxicity of mercury. ... The initial 3-day round of DMSA in Phase 1 was intended as a screening for Phase 2, but it was discovered that the initial round of DMSA had a large beneficial effect in dramatically improving glutathione, and normalizing platelet levels (a marker of inflammation).

27. Evidence of oxidative damage and inflammation associated with low glutathione redox status in the autism brain (2012)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3410618/>

.. these results indicate that decreased GSH/GSSG redox/antioxidant capacity and increased oxidative stress in the autism brain may have functional consequence in terms of a chronic inflammatory response, increased mitochondrial superoxide production, and oxidative protein and DNA damage.

28. The association between mercury levels and autism spectrum disorders: A systematic review and meta-analysis. (2017)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/m/pubmed/28965590/>

Results of the current meta-analysis revealed that mercury is an important causal factor in the etiology of ASD. It seems that the detoxification and excretory mechanisms are impaired in ASD patients which lead to accumulation of mercury in the body.

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29. Was Young's syndrome caused by exposure to mercury in childhood? (1993)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1697782/>

Abstract: Objective - To determine whether the incidence of chronic sinusitis, bronchitis, or bronchiecstatis in men with obstructive azoospermia (Young's syndrome) has fallen in men born after 1955 when calomel (mercurous chloride) was removed from teething powders and worm medication in the United Kingdom. ... Conclusion: The decline in incidence of Young's syndrome in those born after 1955 is similar to that observed with pink disease, suggesting that both conditions may have had a similar aetiology - mercury intoxication.

Discussion: Warkany, who established the link between mercury and pink disease, commented in a review that there is nothing

more dead than a dead disease. The results of this study indicate that the resulting problems may, in fact, live on since there is a relation between pink diseases in childhood and Young's syndrome in adult life and, by interference, between both conditions and mercury intoxication. .. Although the toxic effect of mercury are well documented, this long term effect on reproduction has not been described previously... The geographical differences in incidents of Young's syndrome are important. Sale of calomel was discouraged by the Food and Drug Administration in the United States in 1933, and remarkably few examples of Young's syndrome have been reported there. On the other hand, as Warkany commented, wherever the British flag flew, calomel was an ingredient of popular medications, probably because it induced sweating and acted as a purgative. ... The largest series of Young's syndrome have been reported from the United Kingdom and from Australia, where the incidence of pink disease was highest until the sale of calomel was prohibited.

30. Pink Disease revisited (Pink Disease Support Group, 2009)

<http://www.pinkdisease.org/PDhandout240309.doc>

A little history; Post pink disease symptoms; Symptoms of mercury poisoning:

.. Generally, people who had Pink Disease (PD) have worse health than other people of the same age and gender. Comparative data was obtained regarding the health or otherwise of peoples' eyes, mouth and throat, blood, muscles and bones, co-ordination, allergies and chemical sensitivities, general health, skin, heart and lungs, stress level and emotional well being, and gender related matters. .. Eyes: Severe sensitivity to light is a symptom of PD and mercury poisoning. Most people who had PD not only still have severe light sensitivity, many of them have it most or all of the time .. Blood: Both Pink Disease and Mercury Poisoning cause severe anaemia. Those who had PD, have a 30% higher incidence of iron deficiency and B12 anaemia and 3 times the amount of frequent bouts of anaemia .. Allergies and Chemical Sensitivities: PD and mercury poisoning affect the immune system badly. Allergies are a defective immune system response to common and everyday items. PD sufferers are much more allergic than members of the control group. The incidence of allergies is 2 to 3 times higher for the PD group with allergies to foods, medicines, cosmetics and chemicals being the most common. .. Skin: They have 2 or 3 times the incidence of rashes and skin problems, their skin is drier and is more prone to sun related skin problems such as sunburn .. Lungs & Circulation: Mercury affects the lungs badly, and this is why many PD babies died - they caught severe bronchopneumonia and other lung infections. The result of the damage is more asthma, bronchiectasis, breathlessness, poor circulation and slightly more heart disease. .. One third of the PD Group has asthma and more than 75% suffer breathlessness from minor exertion. Thirty percent have bronchiectasis compared to 5% of the control group. Mercury is extremely toxic to the lungs and can cause tightness, incomplete expansion, and collapse of the lungs, emphysema and pneumonia. Broncho-pneumonia was one of the major causes of death in babies with Pink Disease. ... Young's Syndrome, which is a type of male infertility, occurs almost exclusively in men who have a history of Pink Disease or other mercury exposure. Stress Level, Emotional Wellbeing and Personality: Mercury poisoning and therefore PD causes emotional difficulties such as shyness, confusion and a sense of alienation. The emotional turmoil of PD babies has stayed with them. .. For example, 40% of the PD group have insomnia often or always compared to 20% of the Control Group and 35% often or always lack self-confidence compared to 10% of the Control Group.

31. Mercury Across Generations, More Evidence of Harm (2013)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8UAVBRg8wQ8>

Heather Thiele, pink disease survivor: "The powders were told to be the most wonderful soothing thing for your children for teething. In lots of cases the doctors actually prescribed the powders. So my mother went to the local child nurse and she recommended the teething powders that were readily available at the time.and the doctor diagnosed this mystery disease, that had started to appear that they'd call pink disease, because of the pink hands and feet. ... We were poisoned. There was no apology. We have suffered a life of difference to what it should be. ... Refer back to the humble simple people like myself, to say what it's like, get their example, and don't ever let this happen to another generation."

.....

32. http://www.draloisdengg.at/bilder/pdf/BoydHaleyToxicity_Oral_Infection_Amalgam.pdf

Slide 43: "Exposure of neuroblastoma cells to 10⁻⁹ molar mercury increases Tau phosphorylation and secretion of beta-amyloid. Both of these events occur in Alzheimer's diseased brain. Amyloid plaque formation is the "diagnostic hallmark" of Alzheimer's disease. Olivieri et al. J. Neurochemistry, 74, 231, 2000." (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/10617124>)

"Exposure of cultured neurons to 10⁻⁷ to 10⁻¹⁰ molar mercury rapidly causes the stripping of tubulin from the neurofibrils forming the neurite processes leading to the formation of neurofibrillary tangles, a "diagnostic hallmark" of Alzheimer's disease. Leong et al. NeuroReports 12(4), 733, 2001" (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/11277574>)

33. Does inorganic mercury play a role in Alzheimer's disease? A systematic review and an integrated molecular mechanism. (2010 - Journal of Alzheimer's Disease)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20847438>

<https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/c1be/611df62db64ba040c58beeb16b132c407501.pdf>

Abstract: Mercury is one of the most toxic substances known to humans. It has been introduced into the human environment and has also been widely used in medicine. Since circumstantial evidence exists that the pathology of Alzheimer's disease (AD) might be in part caused or exacerbated by inorganic mercury, we conducted a systematic review using a comprehensive search strategy.... In vitro models showed that inorganic mercury reproduces all pathological changes seen in AD, and in animal models inorganic mercury produced changes that are similar to those seen in AD. Its high affinity for selenium and selenoproteins suggests that inorganic mercury may promote neurodegenerative disorders via disruption of redox regulation. Inorganic mercury may play a role as a co-factor in the development of AD. It may also increase the pathological influence of other metals. Our mechanistic model describes potential causal pathways. As the single most effective public health primary preventive measure, industrial, and medical usage of mercury should be eliminated as soon as possible. ...

34. Mercury induced the Accumulation of Amyloid Beta (A β) in PC12 Cells: The Role of Production and Degradation of A β (2013)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24578793>

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3936175/>

Extracellular accumulation of amyloid beta protein (A β) plays a central role in Alzheimer's disease (AD). ... Hg and MeHg increased amyloid precursor protein (APP), which is related to A β production. Neprilysin (NEP) levels in PC12 cells were decreased by Hg and MeHg treatment. These results suggested that Hg induced A β accumulation through APP overproduction and reduction of NEP.

35. Association between dental amalgam fillings and Alzheimer's disease: a population-based cross-sectional study in Taiwan. (2015)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26560125>

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4642684/>

Introduction: Dental amalgam, a material for filling prepared cavities after removing caries, consists of about 50 % mercury [1]. Mercury vapor has been proven to be toxic to the central nervous system. In 2008, the European Commission (**SCENIHR**) asserted that there is no evidence showing negative effects on the human central nervous system when applying amalgam fillings as reported in previous studies. In 2009, a similar statement was made by the American Dental Association [2, 3]. The United States Food and Drug Administration, however, stated in 2008 that mercury in amalgam can increase neural risk in children and pregnant women [4]. Some scientific experiments showed that amalgam restorations in the oral cavity keep releasing human-absorbable mercury vapor [5–8]. Other studies have reported significant associations between mercury concentration in urine or in blood and quantities of amalgam restoration or number of total faces in amalgam restoration [9–11]. Furthermore, occupational studies on mercury exposure provided a strong association between mercury metal and the degeneration of the nervous system [12]. Inorganic mercury chloride (HgCl₂) at 0.025 to 25 µM has been associated with both neuronal degeneration and perturbed excitability [13]. Hock and colleagues have reported a two-fold increase in mercury levels among patients with Alzheimer's disease (AD) when compared to control counterparts [14]. The influence of mercury on AD is not well understood. However, it has been demonstrated that mercury can dramatically promote heparin-induced aggregation of R2, the Alzheimer's tau fragment [15].

METHODS: Data were retrieved from the Longitudinal Health Insurance Database (LHID 2005 and 2010). The study enrolled 1,943,702 beneficiaries from the LHID database. After excluding death cases and individuals aged 65 and under, 207,587 enrollees were finally involved in the study. ...

RESULTS: Individuals exposed to amalgam fillings had higher risk of Alzheimer's disease (odds ratio, OR = 1.105, 95 % confidence interval, CI = 1.025-1.190) than their non-exposed counterparts. Further analysis showed that the odds ratio of Alzheimer's disease was 1.07 (95 % CI = 0.962-1.196) in men and 1.132 (95 % CI = 1.022-1.254) in women. ...

Conclusions: After adjusting for age, income and residential region, women exposed to mercury amalgam fillings were 1.132 times more likely to have AD than were their non-exposed counterparts.

.....

In 1994 Sweden concluded »we have seen enough«. FDA on the contrary claimed that "no science exists about the safety of mercury amalgam" till a lawsuit in 2008. Shouldn't FDA and ADA be the first to deliver safety studies based on exact information on how much mercury is released from different amalgams under different conditions?

36. 60 MINUTES on Mercury Fillings (probably recorded in 1990?)

<https://youtu.be/Ij-51ZZpyF8>

Dr. Murray Vimy, dentist and author of the amalgam studies with a sheep and a monkey (13, 14), at 9:00: "What you see when you look into the FDA you see that the FDA's dental division has been platooned full of American Dental Association people. The entire committee is made up of people from dental institutions, practicing dentists, and people from the dental industry who make the dental materials. There is virtually no medical input or basic science input from medicine on that committee. And so anything the ADA wants they pretty much can get through the FDA. That's what's called effective lobbying."

37. Effects of mercury vapor inhalation on reactive oxygen species and antioxidant enzymes in rat brain and kidney are minimal. (2002 - FDA study)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/12015796>

A statistically significant increase in ROS production (ca. 30% above controls) was observed only in the cortex of rats exposed to 1 mg m(-3) Hg vapor..

38. Amalgam, FDA expert panel hearings (2006)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jK2Uy49Z6CA>

Question to Richard Kennedy, FDA toxicologist, at 1:05: You say it's between 1 and 5 micrograms per day. Since 1997 has anybody done studies to better characterize that range, perhaps the full distribution, or at least give us some probabilistic understanding of those numbers please? Richard Kennedy: "I would love to be able to answer that question."

Question to Ronald Zent, senior director of the ADA council on scientific affairs, at 2:00: Has the ADA ever characterized the exposure to its patients from dental amalgam in a probabilistic sense.. means, averages, standard deviations? Ronald Zent: "My understanding is that the component from dental amalgam is a lower component of the overall mercury exposure."

39. The food and drug administration agrees to classify mercury fillings. (2008)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19105536/>

On Monday June 2, 2008, the lawsuit was settled with the FDA after it agreed to classify mercury fillings. During its negotiation session with the Appellants, the FDA indicated that it would change its website on mercury fillings. The FDA no longer claims that no science exists about the safety of mercury amalgam or that other countries have acted for environmental reasons only. On its website, the FDA now states the following: "Dental amalgams contain mercury, which may have neurotoxic effects on the nervous systems of developing children and fetus." The FDA also states that "Pregnant women and persons who may have a health condition that makes them more sensitive to mercury exposure, including individuals with existing high levels of mercury bioburden, should not avoid seeking dental care, but should discuss options with their health practitioner."

40. FDA: About Dental Amalgam Fillings

<http://www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/ProductsandMedicalProcedures/DentalProducts/DentalAmalgam/ucm171094.htm>

Studies of healthy subjects with amalgam fillings have shown that mercury from exposure to mercury vapor bioaccumulates in certain tissues of the body including kidneys and brain. Studies have not shown that bioaccumulation of mercury from dental amalgam results in damage to target organs.

41. Charlie Brown explains FDA classification of dental amalgam

Charlie Brown Explains the FDA "white paper" on dental amalgam

FDA commissioner Margaret Hamburg's conflict of interest with amalgam rule

Charlie Brown explains the FDA & NIDCRs dental amalgam review scandal

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NhGENkQLXyk>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f2iIn6n6bqg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VivBYrnJcCY>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NJujAGQkLAQ>

... Since it was a non-action nobody at FDA had anything to approve or reject, any commissioner. ... And so you had no action by FDA until we sued them. We had to sue them twice: We sued in the court of appeals and we went back and sued in the district court on what's called a mandamus order. We sought a court order to order FDA to classify amalgam. So that is what our 2007 case served in early 2008 was about. FDA simply decided not to classify, to leave amalgam on the market as an unclassified product. It was outrageous but that was FDA's decision. ...

..this joking around that mercury was safe if done by dentists.. ...

..even then.. they couldn't get the result FDA wanted without inverting the research question. The question was "Is there EVIDENCE amalgam is SAFE?". They had to flip the question and say "Is amalgam proven UNSAFE?". They kept saying it's not proven unsafe. That wasn't even the research question.

42. Boyd Haley debunks the ADA claim: Only minute amounts of mercury are released from amalgam fillings

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2WM1c7VSP70>

We have taken single amalgam fillings (**Tytin, Dispersalloy, Valiant**) in a cylindrical form so we knew the weight and the surface area of that amalgam filling. We did this to over 90 fillings that were made by dentists and shipped back to me, nine different dentists. And we measured the amount of mercury that came off a cylindrical filling .. sitting in distilled water at room temperature, where there is no acidity like you have in your mouth that would encourage it to come out, no sulfur compounds like we have in our mouth that would make it come out, no heat, no grinding, and no galvanism, which all would increase the amount. ... And the amounts that we came up with were 166 to over 600 times higher than what he estimated. ... The FDA is good at estimating. ... They could measure it... Why don't they? What I can tell you it's very very high. It's very toxic. And it corresponds to what people in other countries like the Swedes and the Norwegians and the Finns have measured in the fecal material of people who have amalgam fillings. I mean it goes up dramatically high with existing amalgam fillings. You take those amalgam fillings out and the amount drops in their fecal material so it's not going into them from fish.

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43. British Dental Association

<https://bda.org/amalgam>

"No use of amalgam in: the treatment of deciduous teeth; in children under 15 years; or pregnant or breastfeeding women, except when strictly deemed necessary by the practitioner on the ground of specific medical needs of the patient (from 1 July 2018) ... What is the BDA's position? We have worked alongside the **Council of European Dentists (CED)** to avoid a full ban of dental amalgam, which was included in earlier proposals of this Regulation and intended to be implemented by the early 2020s. ... There is still an intention to phase out amalgam on environmental grounds, possibly by 2030, but only following a full feasibility study to which we and the CED will contribute. .. The restriction on use in children under 15 is not based on any robust evidence. .. It is important to note that the EU Regulation on Mercury is an environmental regulation, not a health regulation. .. Working for you. We make sure that dentists' views are represented when it comes to health policy being developed by government and other key organisations: Join us."

Back in November 2017 parts of the text read this way: "BDA Lobbying: The BDA and the **Council of European Dentists (CED)** have worked hard to avoid a full ban of dental amalgam, which was included in earlier proposals of this Regulation and intended to be implemented by the early 2020s." During these negotiating and lobbying sessions in Brussels in 2015 SCENIHR published their second amalgam report. The first SCENIHR amalgam report was published back in 2008 just when FDA was losing an important lawsuit regarding amalgams (39). Both schedules seem interesting and open questions on their own as for instance: Is SCENIHR really a scientific committee giving independent advice to the European Commission? Could it be its amalgam advice was neither in-dependent nor scientific? Could we ask similar questions about CED? CED has probably driven European dentistry standards over the past decades more than anyone else. What did CED do to standardize the materials used in its own profession every day from safety perspectives? Or amalgams for that matter? One must understand that in medicine a product can be withdrawn from market if it is found either not effective or not safe. With amalgams the safety issue boils down to a simple question: How much mercury a particular amalgam brand releases under different conditions per cm² per day once placed; and to how much mercury it exposes the patient during placement and removal. Different amalgam mixtures were used and are used and they behave very differently (10). If you place something in the mouth of millions of patients one surely would expect this to be a highly regulated area, right? That rules and standardized mandatory tests exists for amalgam manufacturers; and that each manufacturer lists the quantities of released mercury from its amalgams in a safety sheet accompanying that amalgam. But is this the case? Well, there exist no limit for maximum allowed emission of mercury from dental amalgams (10). And there exist no mandatory safety tests for amalgam manufactures about the amounts of leaked mercury. Let's delve somewhat further on the topic. Amalgam is a medical device. The market of medical devices worldwide and across Europe was recently investigated by ICIJ (International Consortium of Investigative Journalists). An article on the topic that The Guardian published:

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/nov/25/revealed-faulty-medical-implants-harm-patients-around-world>

.. Plans for tougher EU rules have been watered down after industry lobbying, according to a huge trove of documents uncovered by the project. ... Dagmar Roth-Behrendt, the German MEP who led the EU's move to overhaul medical device regulation, said lobbying by the industry and trade associations was "the blackest I've seen"

44. Chief Executive of the British Dental Association loses it - BBC documentary

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fq8E84PgP3g>

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45. Combined effects in toxicology -- a rapid systematic testing procedure: cadmium, mercury, and lead. (1978)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/731728>

http://fluoridegate.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/proofSchubert_Combined_Hg-Pb1978.pdf

Page 6 (768): The degree of synergism can be remarkably high. In the Hg/Pb or (Hg+Cd)/Pb combination the acute lethal effect of lead became nearly equivalent to that of mercury. Administration of only 12.4 mcmol/kg lead with an LD1 dose of mercury resulted in 50% mortality. This amount of lead is 1/24 of its LD1, or 1/38 of its LD50 in the absence of mercury. It is interesting to note that a combination of the LD1 of each metal is 100% fatal.

46. The Lead Industry and Lead Water Pipes “A MODEST CAMPAIGN” (2008)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2509614/>

Lead pipes for carrying drinking water were well recognized as a cause of lead poisoning by the late 1800s in the United States. By the 1920s, many cities and towns were prohibiting or restricting their use. To combat this trend, the lead industry carried out a prolonged and effective campaign to promote the use of lead pipes. The LIA’s activities over several decades therefore contributed to the present-day public health and economic cost of lead water pipes.

47. Inventing Conflicts of Interest: A History of Tobacco Industry Tactics (2012)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3490543/>

Confronted by compelling peer-reviewed scientific evidence of the harms of smoking, the tobacco industry, beginning in the 1950s, used sophisticated public relations approaches to undermine and distort the emerging science. .. The industry campaign worked to create a scientific controversy through a program that depended on the creation of industry–academic conflicts of interest. This strategy of producing scientific uncertainty undercut public health efforts and regulatory interventions designed to reduce the harms of smoking. .. A number of industries have subsequently followed this approach to disrupting normative science. Claims of scientific uncertainty and lack of proof also lead to the assertion of individual responsibility for industrially produced health risks.

... It moved aggressively into a new domain, the production of scientific knowledge, not for purposes of research and development but, rather, to undo what was now known: that cigarette smoking caused lethal disease. If science had historically been dedicated to the making of new facts, the industry campaign now sought to develop specific strategies to “unmake” a scientific fact. ... To those schooled in public relations, advertising ran the risk of exposing corporate self-interest. Good public relations relied on scrupulous behind-the-scenes management of media. .. So he proposed seizing and controlling science rather than avoiding it. If science posed the principal—even terminal—threat to the industry, Hill advised that the companies should now associate themselves as great supporters of science. The companies, in his view, should embrace a sophisticated scientific discourse; they should demand more science, not less. .. The public must get the message that the issue of the health effects of smoking remains an open question. Doubt, uncertainty, and the truism that there is more to know would become the industry's collective new mantra. .. Hill's proposal offered the potential of a research program that would be controlled by the industry yet promoted as independent. This was a public relations masterstroke. .. A wide range of other industries have carefully studied the tobacco industry strategy. As a result, they have come to better understand the fundamentals of influence within the sciences and the value of uncertainty and skepticism in deflecting regulation, defending against litigation, and maintaining credibility despite the marketing of products that are known to be harmful to public health.

Lead water pipes, calomel, tobacco, asbestos, amalgam. It is just always the same discussion. Amalgam is a relic of the past when mercury (calomel, "heroic medicine") was yet considered an all-encompassing medicine for everything. What dental organizations have done with amalgam over the past decades may be and likely is tobacco science recycled in its purest form.

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Prepared by Robert Kuster
Europe, April 2019



DOUBLE SPILL Gray/Gray

EACH CAPSULE CONTAINS:
600 mg. ALLOY / 600 mg. MERCURY

Actual text &
logos from an
amalgam label

WARNING *Ingestion:* May cause Neurotoxic Nephrotoxic effects.
Inhalation: May cause Bronchiolitis, Pneumonitis Pulmonary Edema
Eyes & Skin: May cause redness and irritation to eyes and skin
Acute Exposure: May cause sensitization dermatitis and possible visual disturbances
California Prop 65 Warning: This product contains mercury, a chemical known to the State of California to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm.
Store at temperature no higher than 25' C.
Mercury Complies to ISO 1560: 1985
Keep Out Of Reach Of Children
Caution: Federal law restricts this device to sale by or on the order of a dentist.