

**To: WebMD**

**Re: Article: *Mercury Fillings: They're Not Risky*, Dec. 9, 2004**

Dear Sir and / or Madam,

It is with a mixture of sadness and incredulousness that I write this letter. Mercury, the 2nd most toxic substance known to man per the Environmental Protection Agency, is now being implied as "safe" simply by mixing it with other substances???

Is there no limit to the extent of bastardization that one will commit in order to perpetuate a lie? Is there no more sense of ethics and responsibility that a physician even remotely feels that they must exercise? Is there not a level of fiduciary concern that a healer must possess in order to at least pretend that they care about those that they treat?

It is embarrassing for me as a physician trained in general surgery and emergency medicine to read the obvious propaganda full of distorted half truths in order to perpetuate a known lie which has already robbed hundreds of thousands of people, if not millions of people, of their health, their lives and in some cases, even their future generations.

Vast majority of dentists still feel mercury amalgam is safe. And yet, of these same dentists when asked if they have to adhere to OSHA standards and requirements, they resoundingly state "YES". If a dentist spills mercury amalgam (the final composite of the reportedly "safe" combination) in their office, do they simply sweep it up of the floor with a paper towel? The answer is a resounding "NO" according to all the dentists I have talked to regarding this manner. They have to treat the area of the spill of amalgam as a "hazardous spill" area and prevent unsuspecting souls from wondering into this contaminated area.

Once the spilled mercury amalgam has been controlled and confined, is it simply discarded down the sink or thrown in the trash? Again, the answer is a resounding "NO" among all these dentists with whom I've discussed this topic. They further go on to say that they have to adhere to established safety protocols enforced by OSHA by insuring that the spilled mercury is disposed off in an appropriately labeled, hazardous waste material disposal container.

So now tell me, does this particular heavy metal known as mercury (when added to other metals into a substance known as dental amalgam), recognized to be the 2nd most toxic substance known to man, which is required by OSHA to be disposed off in an appropriately labeled, hazardous waste material disposal container if spilled and to have the area where it spilled to be treated as an area of "extreme caution and hazardous spill", undergo some type of morphological "alchemy like" change when placed in the mouth of patients and suddenly become safe?

How can you actually publish such rubbish? Please tell me there is a limit to the stupidity that even those of limited intellect readily recognize. Those in positions of power and influence either ignore or, even more worrisome, may not recognize these facts since they don't meet the criteria for "limited intellect". But none of this explains your actions for not reporting the truth or at the very least, presenting both sides of the story.

Hoping this letter finds you and yours in the best of health and spirits,

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