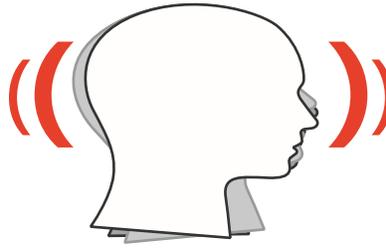


Human Toxicity of mercury dental amalgam- WHO factsheet3



Mercury is a very vaporous heavy metal

tremors,
insomnia,
memory loss,
headaches, and
cognitive and motor
dysfunction.

Symptoms of chronic inhalation of mercury vapor

The World Health Organization (WHO) itemizes the following key properties and characteristics about mercury in its Factsheet: 3

- 1 Mercury is a naturally occurring element that is found in air, water, and soil. **Exposure to mercury – even small amounts – may cause serious health problems, and is a threat to the development of the child in utero and early in life**
2. **Mercury may have toxic effects on the nervous, digestive, and immune systems, and on lungs, kidneys, skin, and eyes.**
3. Mercury is considered by WHO as one of the top ten chemicals or groups of chemicals of major public health concern
4. People are mainly exposed to methylmercury, an organic compound, when they eat fish and shellfish that contain the compound

In that same Factsheet, WHO details the effects of mercury exposure as follows:

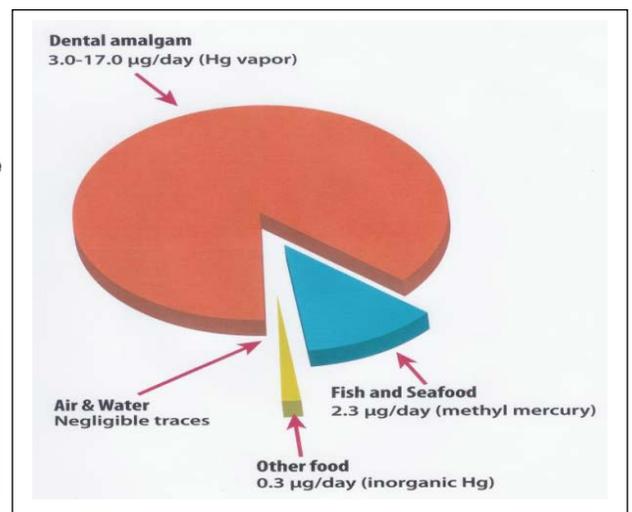
1. “Elemental and methylmercury are toxic to the central and peripheral nervous systems.
2. The inhalation of mercury vapor can produce harmful effects on the nervous, digestive and immune systems, lungs and kidneys, and may be fatal.
3. The inorganic salts of mercury are corrosive to the skin, eyes and gastrointestinal tract, and may induce kidney toxicity if ingested”.
4. **Typical symptoms following the inhalation, ingestion, or when mercury comes in contact with the skin includes tremors, insomnia, memory loss, headaches, and cognitive and motor dysfunction.**



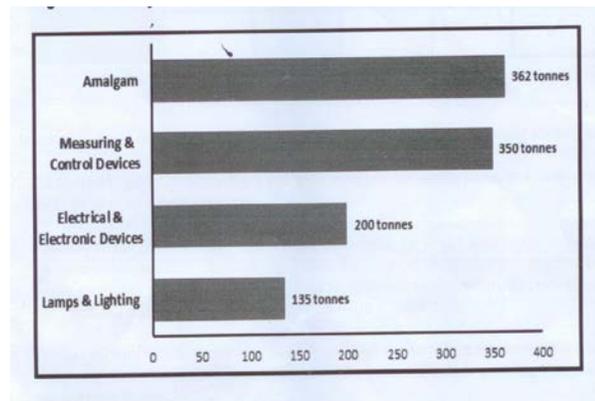
Sources of human mercury exposure

No 1 = Dental Amalgam – about 80%

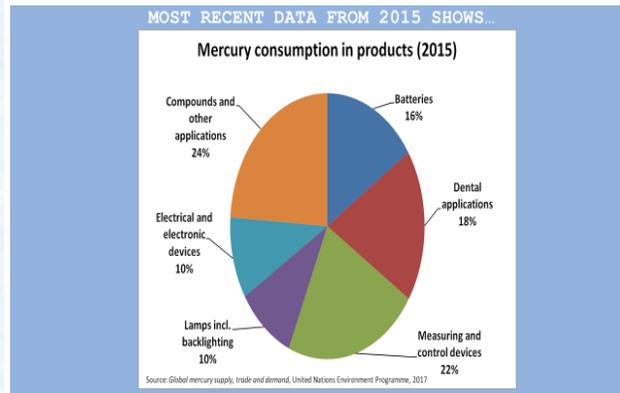
3.0 -17.0 ug/day (Hg. Vapor) @International Academy of Oral Medicine & Toxicology 2016....www.iaomt.org 2016



Environmental toxicity of mercury dental amalgam – UNEP

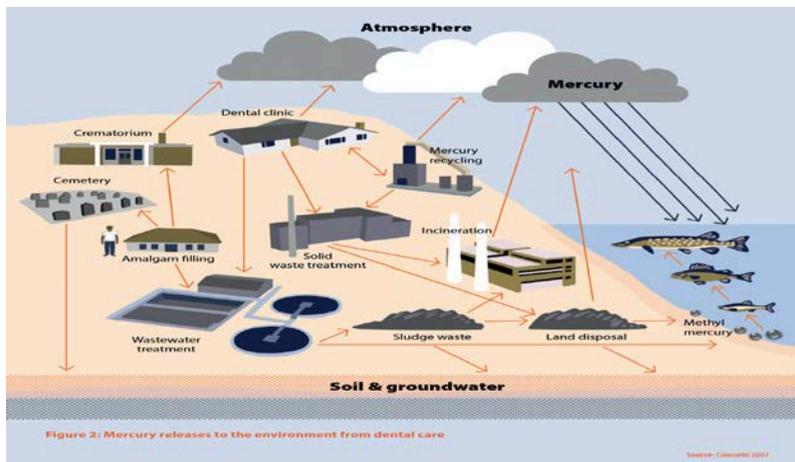


No. 2 in 2008 @ UNEP



No. 3 in 2017 due to phase down by several nations @ UNEP

Mercury dental amalgam pollutes our environment through several routes that are difficult to control” see the different routes below:



Aquatic foods (fish, shrimps etc.) will become contaminated with methyl mercury making them not fit for human consumption. Humans get the methyl mercury by eating contaminated fish. Pregnant and lactating women, children from 1-15 years of age are most susceptible to the neurotoxic effects of methyl mercury.

The elemental mercury from the mercury dental amalgam you use in your clinic gets discharged into the sewage system and contaminates underground water systems. Sulphur reducing bacteria acts on the elemental mercury and converts into methyl mercury –a potent neurotoxin that damages children brain even before they are born.



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