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LETTERS

Mercury fillings are poisonous

December 21, 2006

When I asked the dentist: "Where does the mercury go?" I was told that the amalgam makes the mercury perfectly inert. A year and 10 doctors later, when I was dying from a mystery toxicity, tests revealed mercury to be the culprit and it was coming from my not-inert fillings. The dentist who removed all my mercury fillings thereby saving my life (I recovered in the next several months) was threatened for revealing this dirty little secret, that mercury is dangerous to health, especially when used in children and pregnant women.

Ask the dentist to share with you the warnings he or she receives regarding mercury and the dangers to dentist and staff from handling this deadly poison. Dental amalgam is half mercury, hence the name: mercury amalgam, mercury filling, mercury poisoning, mercury toxicity. Refusing to use the word mercury makes it no less toxic, only more insidious, and no amount of word games or alchemy makes it inert. Mercury amalgam is not a chemical compound, it is only a mixture and the mercury can leave in many ways.

A mercury filling in the mouth environment is electrically active, a small mercury battery, and this electrochemical machine ionizes the mercury and, like electroplating, moves it out of the filling into the circulatory system, the nervous system, the respiratory system. Breathe on somebody and you could be charged with spreading toxic waste.

Amalgam residues in the natural environment are not inert, contrary to what the alchemists say; it is more likely the brains of the alchemists that are inert.

This is why dentists are being asked not to flush this poison into the sewer — and this is "safe" in your mouth? I'll take chemistry and physics over alchemy any day.

And why this current flurry of mercury apology? The Legislature is about to debate mercury regulation and the lobbyists are out in force and the dental societies are urging dentists to make fools of themselves passing out the folklore: "If you don't call it mercury, it won't hurt you." "It's completely safe, it's inert!"

Anybody who is concerned about mercury fillings can choose the white composite material. It looks better, is easier for dentists to repair, and works fine. Dentists who are defending the use of mercury fillings need to leave the 19th century (when the original American Dental Association broke up over the use of mercury in fillings) and join the 21st century. There is no need to put mercury in your mouth.

WILLIAM ROSS

Danby



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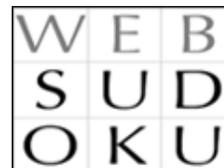
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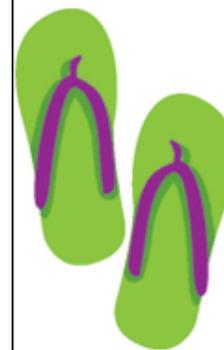
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