

SAY NO TO MERCURY

ENDING THE MERCURY AGE IN DENTISTRY

Monday 25th November 2019

13.15 - 14.00

Room 18

The roadmap of solutions for the phase out of dental amalgam...

Dr Lisa Matriste, Director of Say No to Mercury, is a dental expert with more than 30 years experience providing mercury free dentistry. Dr Matriste has brought together a team of experts to disseminate knowledge to the participants at COP3. They can assist all governments with technical assistance and capacity building with the development of a national plan to phase out dental amalgam.

A collaborative approach is needed to provide complete solutions to address the health and environmental impacts of mercury pollution from the dental sector. The proposed roadmap is comprehensive and begins by setting a new standard for best environmental practices. This involves utilising the best available technology for the permanent abatement of mercury pollution generated from the dental sector.

The roadmap addresses the current practices of open burning of waste, dumping waste into landfill and reselling recycled mercury back to the dental amalgam manufacturers where it can be diverted to ASGM. The endpoint in the lifecycle of dental mercury follows the recovery and stabilisation of the dental mercury which is then directed into safe long term storage.

The pragmatic and straight forward roadmap that Say No to Mercury has developed, addresses the various challenges of both the point and diffuse sources of mercury releases and emissions from the dental sector. This roadmap is unique in that all Parties to the Convention can adopt it.

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A summary of the four stages of the roadmap follows...

Source reduction: access to cost-effective, mercury free and BPA free dental filling materials (Saremco Dental).

Waste management: introducing cost-effective BAT amalgam separators (LibertyBOSS M.A.R.S).

Recovery, stabilisation and disposal of dental mercury being fated to long term storage (BMT Mercury Technologies).

Awareness-raising: dental experts with specialised training in best management practices are available to assist governments with professional training programs for dentists in handling dental amalgam (IAOMT).

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MERCURY
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