

## Correspondence received from members of the public during the period 4 to 10 April 2024

**25 emails** (identical wording) were received as follows:

- Do not block the EU law that bans amalgam in 9 months.  
No Irishman and no Irishwoman wants mercury implanted in the mouth.  
The environment counts more than the London lobbyists.

**30 emails** were received as follows:

- I am writing you to urge you to NOT block the EU law that bans amalgam (mercury) fillings. It is beyond time that this damaging and archaic practice be stopped. No person of any persuasion should have mercury implanted into their mouths. In addition to the above which should be enough alone, the environment also should count more than some London lobbyists.
- Hi Just to say that I gradually had my mercuric dental fillings replaced by composites, and my mind was a lot lighter afterwards. Difficult to explain because it's subjective but it made a noticeable difference.
- Why, why, why are you continuing to deny the health risks of mercury. Ban the mercury and stop being [REDACTED]!!!!
- The great news for Ireland, the entire island, is that the European Union bans dental amalgam starting in 9 months on January 1st, 2025. The new law moves European dentistry out of the dreadful past of mercury-based dentistry, to the huge benefit of the Irish environment, the fish in the rivers and seas (and those who eat them), dental clinic safety, and consumers who risk mercury damage from dental amalgam.

Truly no one would want a dental filling that is 50% mercury. This primitive practice continued because of consumer deception, calling them "silver" fillings when they are mainly mercury!

Shockingly, NI health minister Robin Swann wants the law suspended in Northern Ireland! Which means that the entire Emerald Isle will continue to be polluted with mercury, that fish Irish children eat will still contain mercury, that consumers will continue to risk mercury toxicity by these primitive implants, and that dental workers must continue to breathe those toxic vapours. Why? Because the British Dental Association, coming over from London, lobbies to protect mercury use in dentistry.

- I have been the victim of amalgam leaking from into my system. It took years of illness before I was finally informed that the problem was the amalgam. It was an expensive process to put the fillings in and an even more very expensive process of removing the amalgam. I eventually lost all those teeth but then started the even more expensive process of removing the Mercury and the other dangerous metals from my brain and the rest of the organs of my body. Dentists have a lot to answer for using these life-threatening products. Think of the suffering they have caused so many people and now they want to continue doing so. SHAME SHAME.
- I am emailing to ask you to not block the EU law that bans amalgam in 9 months. No informed individual wants mercury implanted in the mouth. It can be very detrimental to health, something I have personally experienced. Also, mercury is polluting. If we care about our climate, it makes sense to ban it, especially when there are viable and safe alternatives available. Surely the environment counts more than the London lobbyists? Please support the ban. We all live on the same island.
- I am writing to urge you to support the introduction of the ban on amalgam fillings throughout the whole island of Ireland. I suffered problems with my memory around 10 years ago and found that having all my amalgam fillings removed improved my memory considerably. No human being should have mercury vapours gassing off in their mouth, contributing to inflammation and toxicity in their brain. If GB want to shrink their post-Brexit brains even further they are entirely free to do so but count us out.
- I strongly object to you canvassing for dental amalgam to remain as a treatment for fillings in Ireland. In fact, I am HORRIFIED. When the rest of Europe has banned it for the safety & health of our children and indeed our rivers, it is simply incredulous that you would seek to have it remain as a treatment. PLEASE STOP THIS NOW.
- Please do not oppose the ban on silver amalgam dental fillings. Mercury is poisonous.
- The European Union bans dental amalgam starting in 9 months from January of next year. Truly no one would want a dental filling that is 50% mercury — this primitive practice continued because of consumer deception, calling them "silver" fillings when they are mainly mercury!
- Please Do not block the EU law that bans amalgam in 9 months. No man or woman wants mercury implanted in the mouth. The environment counts more than the dental lobbyists.

- Do NOT block the EU law that bans amalgam in 9 months. NO Irish person want this toxic substance (mercury) implanted in their mouth.
- NI health minister Robin Swann wants the law suspended in Northern Ireland! which means that the entire island will continue to be polluted with mercury and that fish Irish children eat will still contain mercury. Please do not block the EU law that bans amalgam in 9 months.  
No Irishman and no Irishwoman wants mercury implanted in the mouth.  
and the environment counts more than the London lobbyists.
- Ban mercury!
- I write to you today as a patient who had a number of "mercury based" fillings. (done in Birmingham mostly) I am now 72 and have good health because more than 25 years ago my dentist advised me on the issue and the risks. He recommended that I have them removed and refilled with a non-mercury product that was safer and to avoid the high risks due to mercury poisoning in my system. Thankfully I took his advice, and this has played a huge role in my health whilst at the same time friends who did not get this advice and are now in ill health suffering from the things my dentist warned me about. Please Please terminate the dreadful issue of using Amalgam filling materials by allowing the EU ban to proceed.
- It is no longer necessary for Northern Ireland to be stuck in the past, please ban this toxic and unnecessary metal in dentistry.
- Please support the EU ban on dental amalgam for the health of all citizens in Northern Ireland and also for the benefit of the environment of our island. The health benefits are huge for people in not having mercury in their mouth leeching into their body.
- I am writing to request that you do not block the EU law that bans amalgam in 9 months' time. No one living on the island if Ireland wants mercury implanted in their mouth. This is a dreadful practice and deceives consumers by using the term silver fillings when they are in effect composed of 50% mercury a toxic heavy metal.
- Please do not bow to the lobbyists that are there purely to promote profit before human health.

I am so very disappointed to see that you are going to allow dentists in Northern Ireland to continue to use amalgam fillings which contain mercury. It is now widely known that mercury is very detrimental to a person's health. And when you consider the mercury is in your mouth constantly being broken down by saliva & food particles, you're just swallowing poison constantly. Why you would allow this practise to continue here, when so many other countries have banned it as they realise the dangers it presents,

is really incomprehensible. I would urge you to reconsider your position please and ban this practise in Northern Ireland also.

- Respectfully, I would urge that London lobbyists are not allowed to protect the use of mercury in dental fillings and that NI would also support this European wide ban on mercury based fillings.
- Please ban mercury in fillings.
- It has come to my attention that Northern Ireland are not in agreement with Europe on banning mercury fillings. If this continues it means that the Irish sea will still be contaminated, and our children will still be eating mercury polluted fish!

This is an outrage and I object vehemently on behalf of all Irish people that we should be subjected to this ridiculous suggestion. We are one land mass and who governs politically should have no bearing on our health and welfare. Please reconsider and I await your reply.

- I understand that following lobbying by BDA against the proposed legislation banning the use of amalgam in fillings there has been a suggestion that the Assembly seek to suspend the legislation in Northern Ireland.

I wish to register an objection to such a move. I find it illogical to state that a poisonous substance can be mixed with other material and suddenly it poses no risk to the health of individuals. Having had mercury fillings in my teeth for most of my life I have no desire to see the practice continue but would rather that my grandchildren remain mercury free. Please do not succumb to the pressure from BDA.

- Do not oppose the banning of Amalgam on the Island of Ireland!
- I have lived in both Northern Ireland and Ireland and it is one Island, not two. The whole Island is affected by what all individuals do, no matter what one group or another has to say. Especially when it comes to nature and how we treat it.

I have spent thousands of euros to take the amalgam fillings out of my mouth in the correct manner in order to relieve some of the health issues they have caused.

Please do not block the EU law that bans amalgam in 9 months. No Irishman and no Irishwoman wants mercury implanted in their mouth. The environment counts more than the London lobbyists. I am an American who has chosen to live here to have a better and more healthful life. Listen to science and what the environment is telling us.

- Please follow Ireland's lead in banning mercury-based fillings.
- Completely ban mercury ASAP thank you.
- Having learnt recently that the health minister is moving to block the upcoming 2025 EU ban on mercury use in fillings, I am writing to ask you to reconsider. As mercury is proven to be toxic in the body, for many years I have been requesting white fillings only. These are available on the HSE in the ROI. Why are they not available on the NHS in NI? And why do you argue to keep this toxic substance in the health system, on the basis that non-mercury fillings will be too expensive, when every country in the EU now recognise the toxicity of the substance and are moving to provide affordable alternatives? As a UK citizen and a long-term resident of Ireland, I respectfully ask you to reconsider.
- The toxicity of mercury is well known as to its harmful effects. Please do not further endanger particularly dental health. Protect our law and right to health. Support the new law rendering mercury free dentistry.
- Amalgam/Mercury dental fillings are carcinogenic, toxic to the environment and have been known to cause autism. Please don't block the law Banning Amalgam Dental Fillings in 9 months' time.