

Current level of usage and waste management practices of dental amalgam and mercury free alternatives among dentists in Ireland



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96%

of dentists were aware of the recommended phase-down in the use of dental amalgam.

61%

of dentists felt that the phase down of amalgam is a good idea.

98%

of dentists received clinical training in amalgam placement as part of their dental school training.

67%

of dentists received clinical training in posterior composite placement as part of their dental school training.

25%

of dentists agreed when asked if they felt more confident placing an amalgam filling than a composite filling.

48%

of dentists would be concerned about the prognosis of their restorations if they had to use composite for all posterior restorations.

The Facts



93% of dentists reported having a waste management policy in relation to the disposal of waste amalgam.



78% of dentists reported disposing of all amalgam waste in a dedicated container with a sponge impregnated with a mercury vapour suppressant.



71% of dentists reported having a waste management policy in relation to the disposal of extracted teeth containing amalgam.



87% of dentists reported having an amalgam separator fitted in their practice.



13% of dentists reported knowing how much amalgam the amalgam separator retains.