

Ecology/WSDA Dental MOU

Voluntary Compliance – 2 years

Then what?

Implementation phase:

1. Education – WSDA presentations
Letter/poster & website
2. Baseline survey – summer 2004
3. Follow up survey – summer 2005
4. Follow up visits

Dental BMP website

- Memorandum of Understanding: ECY/WSDA
- FAQ for dentists re: waste management
- Amalgam waste service providers
- BMP poster
- WSDA waste management slide show
- Choosing a separator (JADA articles)
- Other technical info

Dental wastes of concern:

- Amalgam wastes
 - Contact and non-contact
 - Amalgam sludges from separators
- Elemental mercury
- Used x-ray fixer and unused developer
- Lead: foil from films, aprons, lined boxes
- Cleaning/disinfecting solutions

Other Hg dental wastes

- Medical equipment – i.e. thermometers
- Thermostats
- Fluorescent bulbs
- Electrical equipment, i.e. switches, etc.

Non-contact amalgam

- Scrap from mixing

- Empty capsules

waste stream issue: can take capsule & contents?

Amalgam separators

- Capture fine amalgam particles not removed by other traps
- 95-99% effective
- Have been extensively tested & have standards developed
- Are already required in King County
- May create a new MRW waste stream needing disposal

Contact amalgam

- Chair side traps – disposable and reusable waste stream issues for MRW:
 - can take whole trap plus contents?
 - treatment protocol needed?
 - liquid or dry?

Vacuum pump filters

- Disposable and reusable
- Waste stream issues:
 - Disposable: can take whole filter & contents?
 - Reusable: sludge, how packaged? Treatment?

X-ray fixer & unused developer

- Silver content of collected fixer –
 - Usually ½ to 1 gal/month
 - Recommending off-site disposal
 - On-site systems: 2 CRCs at minimum
- Unused developer has hydroquinone

Lead

- Lead foils – fishing weights!
- Lead aprons – when worn out
- Lead lined boxes (for film storage)

Cleaning/disinfecting solutions

DW depending on ingredients and concentrations:

- Sterilants with gluteraldehyde
- Bleach and others, may solubilize Hg from amalgam particle!
- Many non-bleach alternatives available