

Lars Hylander, amalgam expert & meeting participant – Sweden

Sent: Tuesday, December 21, 2010 3:51 PM

Subject: Grave errors in the Petersen et al report

To Dr Ala Alwan
Assistant Director-General
Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health
WHO

Dear Dr Ala Alwan,

I was invited to the meeting entitled "Future use of materials for dental restoration" held in Geneva in November 2009. The meeting was engaging and we had many fruitful discussions on the multitude of possibilities to offer efficient and low-cost dental care without polluting the environment with toxic compounds or elements. It was really thrilling to learn about Atraumatic Restorative Treatment (ART). ART, contrary to dental amalgam, really has the potential to give caries treatment other than tooth extraction in developing countries.

Considering this, I got shocked when receiving the report of the meeting (attached), because of lots of fact errors and a description of dental amalgam not presented at the meeting. I had not got any earlier version for proof reading. Therefore, I tried to make Dr Petersen and the other authors observant on the errors, but without greater success. See the attached file.

I am now wondering how you on behalf of WHO plan to repair the severally damaged confidence in WHO from the delegates spending many days to plan and present adequate result in Geneva, presentations that were distorted or ignored in the report. I would appreciate an answer from you within two weeks.

Sincerely yours,
Lars Hylander

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