Best Management Practices (BMPs) in Dental Offices

Pursuant to the Regional Water Quality Control Board Order No. R2-2007-0077, the Castro Valley Sanitary District has implemented a Dental Amalgam Program to meet Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) requirements for mercury discharged into San Francisco Bay. The following BMPs are required of all dental offices (except exempt facilities) located in Castro Valley Sanitary District.

- **Do not use bleach or any other chlorine-containing products when cleaning the vacuum system. Cleaning products must have a pH that does not alter the efficiency of the vacuum pump or amalgam separator.**

- **Train staff annually in proper handling and disposal of amalgam materials. Also, train new staff when hired. Maintain a training log for all employees for a minimum of 3 years.**

- **Install and properly maintain an ISO certified amalgam separator.**

- **Segregate amalgam-containing waste in air-tight containers following recycler’s or waste hauler’s instruction for separation of contact and non-contact amalgam. DO NOT include with medical “red bag” waste, regular solid waste, or general office recycling. Handle all types of amalgam waste as hazardous waste. Do not add water or waste fixer to amalgam waste containers, and keep containers dry at all times.**

- **Use precapsulated amalgam. Limit amount of amalgam triturated. Keep a variety of capsule sizes. Discontinue use of bulk liquid mercury.**

- **Wet vacuum system:**
  - Change chairside traps frequently. Store traps in a plastic bag with other amalgam waste. Never rinse traps in the sink.
  - Change pump screen as needed or directed by manufacturer. Seal plastic container with screen and contents (including any water that may be present) and store with amalgam waste. Do not rinse contents down sink or other drain.

- **Dry vacuum system:**
  - Have a qualified maintenance technician, amalgam recycler, or hazardous waste disposal service pump out and clean the air-water separator tank. Note: Filters must be installed with all vacuum systems.
PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

1. Use the Best Management Practices (BMPs) as described inside this brochure.
2. Install and maintain a certified amalgam separator. See back panel for listing.
3. Submit documentation as proof of compliance.
4. Train staff and maintain training records for a minimum of 3 years. Visit www.cvsan.org for Sample Staff Training Log.
5. Complete required CVSD inspections. Beginning February 2013, CVSD staff will contact your office to schedule your initial inspection.

IMPORTANT COMPLIANCE DATES

December 31, 2012 - Deadline to submit annual self-certification for amalgam management requirements. Exempt facilities are also required to submit the self-certification. See below for a list of exempt facilities. Note: Certificates are valid for one (1) year and must be renewed annually.

February 2013 - Facility inspections begin. Certificates of Compliance will be provided after inspections, upon successful fulfillment of all program requirements. Note: After the initial inspection, every facility will be inspected once every two (2) years.

EXEMPT FACILITIES

Facilities that practice one or more of the following are exempt from the Dental Amalgam Program requirements:
- Orthodontics
- Periodontics
- Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
- Radiology
- Oral Pathology and Oral Medicine
- Endodontics
- Prosthodontics

Visit www.cvsan.org for more information including:
- “Self-Certification for Amalgam Management Requirement” Form
- “Self-Certification for Amalgam Separator Installation” Form
- Considerations for Amalgam Separator Selection
- Approved Line Cleaners
- Sample Staff Training Log

AMALGAM WASTE RECYCLERS

Veolia Environmental Services  (707) 745-0501
Alameda County Household Hazardous Waste  (800) 606-6606
EcoSolutions/Stericycle  (866) 783-7422
Safety-Kleen Co.  (408) 294-8778
WCM, Inc.  (866) 436-9264
Barnes HazMat, Inc.  (877) 600-6737

AMALGAM SEPARATORS

AB Dental Rasch 890  (800) 817-6704
American Dental Rasch AD  (800) 331-7993
Dental Recycling BU10,30  (800) 360-1001
Purewater Metasys ECO II  (305) 663-2989
R & D CE 9, 12, 18, 24  (800) 816-4995
RAMVAC Hg5  (605) 642-6414
Rebec Catch Hg  (800) 569-1088
Solmetex Hg-5, Hg  (508) 393-5115

(CVSan does not endorse any manufacturers. Other separators not listed may be installed provided that they meet the ISO 11143 standard and minimum removal efficiency)