

COUNCIL OF  
EUROPEAN DENTISTS



**NOVEMBER 2011**

**// CED RESOLUTION**

# **RESPONSIBLE PRACTICE**

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## // INTRODUCTION

The Council of European Dentists (CED) is the representative organisation for the dental profession in the EU, representing over 320,000 practising dentists through 32 national dental associations. Established in 1961 to advise the European Commission on matters relating to the dental profession, the CED promotes high standards of oral healthcare and effective patient-safety centred and evidenced-based professional practice across Europe.

## // STATEMENT ON RESPONSIBLE PRACTICE

In support of responsible practice for the reduction of the environmental impact of the use of dental amalgam, dentists should:

1. Use amalgam separators which respect ISO standards;
2. Keep amalgam separators well-maintained and serviced;
3. Use encapsulated amalgam only;
4. Fully-comply with waste management regulations, in particular Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on waste and repealing certain Directives;
5. Ensure proper separation of amalgam waste;
6. Ensure that the disposal of amalgam waste is carried out by licensed carriers, leading to appropriate recycling;
7. Continue to improve the oral health of our communities and work in the interest of patients.

## // STATEMENT ON ALTERNATIVE MATERIALS

1. The scientific community is not yet fully able to demonstrate the relative emerging risks of the use of alternative materials;
2. Evidence about the toxicology of the alternative materials is a work in progress;
3. The profession should urge manufacturers to fully declare the chemical composition of the alternative materials;
4. The environmental data regarding the use of alternative materials is lacking and the profession should urge the decision-makers to know more;
5. More research on alternative materials is highly recommended.

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**Adopted unanimously by the CED General Meeting on 18 November 2011**