

MINAMATA  
CONVENTION  
ON MERCURY

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**Conference of the Parties to the  
Minamata Convention on Mercury  
Fourth meeting**

Online, 1–5 November 2021 and Bali, Indonesia,

21–25 March 2022

Agenda item 4 (a) (ii)

**Matters for consideration or action by the  
Conference of the Parties: mercury-added products  
and manufacturing processes in which mercury or  
mercury compounds are used: information on  
dental amalgam****Dental amalgam: prevention and treatment of dental caries  
with mercury-free products and minimal intervention****Note by the secretariat**

The World Health Organization has submitted to the secretariat the latest publication in its oral health briefing note series to support the Conference of the Parties in its consideration of agenda item 4 (a) (ii) on dental amalgam. The publication focuses on the prevention and treatment of dental caries (tooth decay) with mercury-free products and minimal interventions.<sup>1</sup> It begins with background information on the importance of using mercury-free materials and products and minimally invasive intervention approaches, before setting out briefing notes on the use of six of those products and approaches in the prevention and treatment of dental caries: fluoride toothpaste, fluoride varnish, glass ionomer cement sealants, glass ionomer cement restorations, silver diamine fluoride and composite resin restorations. The publication is available at the following link: <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/352480>.

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<sup>1</sup> World Health Organization, *Prevention and Treatment of Dental Caries with Mercury-Free Products and Minimal Intervention*, WHO oral health briefing note series (Geneva, 2022).