

*Substitute underlined word with a synonym or a word with similar meaning from the GLOSSARY section*

1. extent    2. durable; are susceptible    3. hue; surrounding    4. are suited  
5. disadvantages; expense    6. worn out

*Match patient's questions with dentist's answers*

Patients's questions:

- A. **Is it true that dental amalgams have been banned in other countries? 3.**  
B. **How will you restore my tooth with composite filling? How does the process look like? 1**  
C. **What are the typical symptoms of allergy to an amalgam filling? 4**  
D. **I had my tooth restored last week. My filling fell out this morning. Why? 2**

*Complete the text about amalgam use in pregnant women and children with words from the table.*

Dental amalgam, in 1) **widespread** use for over 150 years, is one of the oldest materials used in oral health care. Its use extends beyond that of most drugs, and is 2) **predated** in dentistry only by the use of gold. Dental amalgam is the 3) **end** result of mixing approximately 4) **equal** parts of elemental liquid mercury and an alloy powder composed of silver, tin, copper, and sometimes smaller amounts of zinc, palladium, or indium.

The dental amalgam 5) **controversy** is a debate over the use of mercury amalgam as a dental filling. The concern centers around the 6) **long-term** health effects of toxicity or allergy which may be associated with constant mercury exposure, particularly as a potential cause of 7) **chronic** illnesses, autoimmune disorders, neurodegenerative diseases, birth defects, and mental

For years amalgam fillings were considered as safe. However, in the recent years we can hear more frequently that it may be harmful to pregnant and 8) **nursing** women, children, people with compromised immune systems and unborn children.