

Norwegian Ban on Mercury

On December 14, 2007, the Norwegian regulations governing dangerous chemicals and other products were [amended](#) to include a [ban](#) on mercury. The ban applies from January 1, 2008.

The relevant clauses are translated as follows:

It is prohibited to produce, import, export, sell or use substances on their own or preparations that contain mercury or mercury compounds.

It is prohibited to produce, import, export or sell articles that contain mercury or mercury compounds

The amendment includes some exceptions, notably minor amounts of mercury in ores of other metals, batteries, vehicle or electronic components or materials with less than 10 µg/g Hg.

The amendment includes a temporary but limited reprieve for dental amalgam:

Until December 31, 2010, the ban does not cover amalgam used for the dental treatment of patients who must be treated under general anaesthesia, or who are allergic to the ingredients in other filling materials.

Testing of dental amalgam

Dental amalgam is allowed to be used in many EU-countries and outside Europe. For products marketed in these countries, manufacturers have still the possibility of quality control testing at NIOM.