



इन्दिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय मुक्त विश्वविद्यालय
INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY

मेदान गढ़ी, नई दिल्ली-110068, भारत
MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110068. INDIA
फोन PHONE : (0) 91-11-29533078, EPABX : 29535924-32
फैक्स Fax : 91-11-29534935
ई-मेल E-mail : akagarwal@ignou.ac.in

स्वास्थ्य विज्ञान विद्यापीठ
SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Prof. A. K. Agarwal

M.B.B.S, M.D., D.M.B., D.H.S.A.(U.K.)
Professor

F.No.: IG/SOHS/2009/
Dated: 16th March, 2009

Dear Mssrs. Chartier and Karliner,

Thank you for the invitation to join the Mercury-Free Health Care, a collaborative initiative of World Health Organization and Health Care Without Harm.

We understand that this global partnership aims to achieve virtual elimination of mercury-based thermometers and sphygmomanometers over the next decade and their substitution with accurate, economically viable alternatives.

We also understand that this initiative is a component of the UN Environment Programme's Mercury Products Partnership, which is led by the US Environmental Protection Agency. As such, this health care initiative is contributing to a broader effort to promote environmental health by reducing the amount of mercury emitted into the global environment.

Our institution, Indira Gandhi National Open University has been involved since 2006 in promoting to substitution of mercury-based medical devices. The School of Health Sciences, IGNOU in active collaboration with WHO has developed a six month Certificate Programme in Health Care Waste Management through distance learning since 2006. Through this programme we are undertaking the capacity building and training of health care functionaries in Health Care Waste Management including mercury-free medical devices.

I write to you today to accept your invitation and express our willingness to join the global Mercury-Free Health Care Initiative.

As part of the Mercury-Free Health Care Partnership we will continue our efforts by conducting training programmes conferences/ seminars and capacity building of health care functionaries working in different types of health care settings.

We look forward to collaborating with you in this most important effort.

Yours sincerely,


(A.K. Agarwal)

Yves Chartier, World Health Organization
Joshua Karliner, Health Care Without Harm
WHO/HCWH Mercury-Free Health Care Partnership
c/o Salud sin Daño/HCWH International Coordination
Tamborini 2838, 1429 Capital Federal, Argentina

CC: Thomas M. Groeneveld, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, OPPTS/OPPT/NPCD
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (MC 7404T), Room 4355WW, Washington, D.C. 20460