

Facts for consideration:

Healthy Teeth, Healthy Child

- Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF) is an antimicrobial liquid. We use SDF on cavities to help stop the tooth decay process. We also use it to treat tooth sensitivity. SDF may require multiple applications to be effective.
- The procedure: 1) Dry the affected area, 2) Place a small amount of SDF on the affected area, 3) Allow SDF to dry for one minute, 4) Rinse.
- Treatment with SDF does not eliminate the need for dental fillings or crowns to repair function or esthetics. Additional procedures will incur a separate fee.
- Patients should not be treated with SDF if 1) they are allergic to silver 2) there are painful sores or raw areas on the gums (i.e., ulcerative gingivitis) or elsewhere in the mouth (i.e., stomatitis).

Benefits of receiving SDF:

- SDF can help stop tooth decay process temporarily.
- SDF can help relieve sensitivity.



Risks related to SDF include, but are not limited to:

- **The decayed tooth structure area will stain black permanently.** Healthy tooth structure will not stain. Stained tooth structure can be masked or replaced with a filling or a crown in the future.
- Tooth-colored fillings and crowns may also discolor if SDF is applied to them. Normally this color change is temporary and can be polished off.
- If accidentally applied to the skin, gums, or tongue a temporary black stain may appear. The temporary stain is harmless and cannot be washed off easily, it will fade and disappear in 2-6 weeks.
- Patients may notice a metallic taste. This will go away rapidly.
- If tooth decay is not arrested, the decay will progress. In that case the tooth will require further treatment, such as a repeat SDF application, a filling or crown, root canal treatment, or extraction.
- These side effects may not include all the possible situations reported by the manufacturer. If other side effects are noticed, please contact our office.
- Every reasonable effort will be made to ensure the success of SDF treatment. There is a risk that the procedure will not stop the decay and no guarantee of success is granted or implied. Maintaining good oral hygiene and diet are an important part of stopping the decay.

Alternatives to SDF, not limited to the following:

- No treatment, which may lead to continued deterioration of tooth structures and cosmetic appearance. Symptoms and decay may increase in severity and limit the available treatment options.
- Depending on the location and extent of the tooth decay, other treatment may include placement of fluoride varnish, a filling or crown, or extraction with advanced behavior guidance.

I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THIS DOCUMENT, AND ALL MY QUESTIONS ABOUT SILVER DIAMINE FLUORIDE USE WERE ANSWERED:

_____ (signature of patient) _____ (date)