

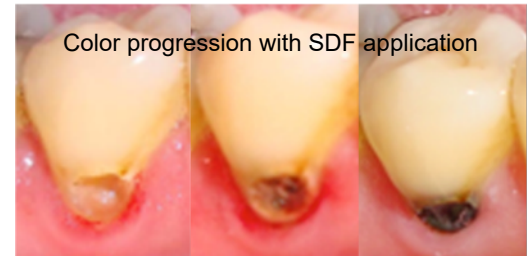
SILVER DIAMINE FLUORIDE

Facts for consideration:

- Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF) is an antibiotic liquid. SDF is used on cavities to help stop tooth decay. SDF is also used to treat tooth sensitivity. SDF application every 6-12 months after the initial treatments may be necessary.
- 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.**
- SDF should not be used for treatment if 1) **the patient is allergic to silver** 2) there are painful sores or raw areas on the gums (i.e., ulcerative gingivitis) or anywhere in the mouth (i.e., stomatitis).

Benefits of receiving SDF:

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



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

- **The affected area will stain black permanently.** Healthy tooth structure will not stain. Stained tooth structure can be replaced with a filling or a crown.
- 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 or gums, a brown stain may appear that causes no harm, cannot be washed off, and will disappear in 1-3 weeks.
- The patient 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 repeat SDF, a filling or crown, root canal treatment, or extraction.
- These side effects may not include all of the possible situations reported by the manufacturer.
- 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.

Alternatives to SDF, not limited to the following:

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

Examples of tooth staining with SDF treatment

