





# A Fresh Approach To Treating Cavities in Children and Adults



## What Is Silver Diamine Fluoride?

SDF is an aqueous solution composed of Silver, Fluoride, and Ammonia.

## How Is It Applied?

1. The area to be treated is isolated with cotton rolls and dried thoroughly.
2. A small dab of liquid is applied using a microbrush.
3. The liquid is allowed to sit for 1 minute.
4. The area is rinsed thoroughly with water.
5. The lesion will darken over the next 24-48 hours indicating that it has hardened.
6. The area should be evaluated every 6 months to assess need for re-application.

## Indications For Use

- ⇒ To desensitize teeth
- ⇒ More conservative treatment of non-symptomatic or very small cavities .
- ⇒ Prevention of decay in patients with high risk conditions.
- ⇒ Infants and young children who would need sedation to treat with traditional restorative methods.
- ⇒ Frail elderly with limited endurance for dental procedures and/or nursing home residents or those on hospice.
- ⇒ Difficult to treat lesions (under crowns or in root furcations or partially erupted teeth)
- ⇒ Patients with cognitive or physical disabilities
- ⇒ Multiple lesions that can not be treated in one visit and may advance or become infected while awaiting treatment.
- ⇒ Patients with severe dental phobia
- ⇒ Immunocompromised patients with a higher risk of systemic infection from untreated decay.
- ⇒ For patients without access to traditional dental care.

## Benefits

Silver Diamine Fluoride affords a treatment method that is completely painless, inexpensive, and takes very little chair time to perform.

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## Risks

SDF has been used in other countries for more than 80 years **without a single adverse event reported**. It was approved for use in the US in 2014.

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## Drawbacks

SDF causes staining of the lesion. Areas treated with SDF will remain dark brown or black. It can also stain the skin if it accidentally comes in contact, which will clear within 2-3 weeks with no treatment needed. Re-application is recommended every 6 months.

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## Contraindications

- ⇒ SDF can not be used in patients with a **Silver Allergy**.
- ⇒ SDF should not be used if there are painful sores on the gums