



Silver Diamine Fluoride

DentaQuest, a market leader in preventive strategies and improving oral health, is adding Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF), effective September 1, 2020, as an extra benefit to Texas Medicaid and CHIP members as part of our value-added service offerings.

Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF) provides a painless, non-invasive, efficient treatment for caries arrest, prevention and dental hypersensitivity. Rather than sending the patient home with active disease, dental offices can now stop the disease progression with an SDF treatment. The combination of 25% silver, 8% ammonia and 5% fluoride work as follows: The silver ions act directly against bacteria in lesions by breaking cell membranes and inhibiting DNA replication. A silver-protein conjugate forms on the decayed surface increasing resistance to acid dissolution and increasing mineral density and hardness that is more resistant to caries bacteria. The fluoride promotes remineralization and the ammonia stabilizes the compound.

SDF will be limited to 6 months – 6 years to align coverage of the caries arresting medicament with the point in the life continuum where children are at risk for costly impact from early childhood caries and when early intervention to carious lesions with SDF can arrest decay and prevent more significant and costly care.

The SDF Billing Code is CDT Code D1354: Interim caries arresting medication application - conservative treatment of an active non-symptomatic carious lesion by topical application of a caries arresting or inhibiting medicament and without mechanical removal of sound tooth structure.

Administration of this benefit will be limited to 2 applications, per lifetime, with 30 days minimum separation between application dates. (Re-application is recommended biannually until the cavity is restored or arrested or tooth exfoliates. *“38% SDF solution applied biannually [is] effective for arresting advanced cavitated carious lesions on any coronal surface (moderate to high certainty).”* – **Journal of the American Dental Association**) Not allowed on the same day as D1206 (fluoride varnish) or D1208 (fluoride). D1354 is not allowed on teeth which have had D2000 (restorative) series procedure (s) in prior 12 months. D2000 series procedures are not allowed for 30 days after the application of D1354. This will assure the Silver Diamine Fluoride treatment and effect on the carious tooth structure has been able to approach desired completion. D1354 must be deemed medically necessary by Main dental Home provider. Providers should submit code D1354 on a claim form as normal for reimbursement. Fee will be \$14.12.

AAPD SDF Chairside Guide

Patients who may benefit from SDF as a no needle/no drill alternative include those:

- With high caries risk who have active cavitated caries lesions in anterior or posterior teeth;
- Presenting with behavioral or medical management challenges and cavitated caries lesions;
- With dental cavitated caries lesions that may not all be treated in one visit;
- With dental caries lesions that are difficult to treat; and
- Without access to or with difficulty accessing dental care.

Criteria for tooth selection include:

- No clinical signs of pulpal inflammation or reports of unsolicited/spontaneous pain.
- Cavitated caries lesions that are not encroaching on the pulp. If possible, radiographs should be taken to assess depth of caries lesions.
- Cavitated caries lesions on any surface as long as they are accessible with a brush for applying SDF
- No silver allergy (*Dr. Crystal, NYU*)
- No presence of stomatitis or ulcerative gingival conditions. *Dr. Crystal, NYU*

SDF turns de-hypo-mineralized areas BLACK. Healthy tooth structure will not stain. Rubber dam or Gingival barrier **MUST** be used.





(SAMPLE INFORMED CONSENT FOR SILVER DIAMINE FLUORIDE)

Authorization for Dental Treatment

I hereby authorize Dr. _____ at _____ and his/her associates to provide and/or administer the dental service Silver Diamine Fluoride that he/she or his/her associates deem, in their professional judgement, necessary or appropriate in my care. I am informed and fully understand that there are inherent risks involved in the administration of any drug, medicament, antibiotic, or local anesthetic. I am informed and fully understand that there are inherent risks involved in any dental treatment. The most common risks for this treatment can 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.*
- *You 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 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. If you notice other effects, please contact your dental provider.*

1. Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF) is an antibiotic liquid. We use SDF on cavities to help stop tooth decay. We also use it to treat tooth sensitivity.
2. Treatment with SDF does not eliminate the need for dental fillings or crowns to repair function or esthetics.
3. Additional procedures will incur a separate level of consent.
4. I should not be treated with SDF if I am allergic to silver, or there are painful sores or raw areas on my gums (i.e., ulcerative gingivitis) or anywhere in my mouth (i.e., stomatitis).
5. I realize that it is mandatory that I follow any instructions given by the dentist and/or his/her associates.
6. Alternative treatment options, including no treatment, have been discussed and understood.
7. No guarantees have been made as to the results of treatment. A full explanation of all complications is available to me upon request from the dentist.

I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THIS DOCUMENT,
AND ALL MY QUESTIONS WERE ANSWERED:



_____ (signature of patient) _____ (date)

_____ (signature of witness) _____ (date)

References:

Dr. Jeremy Horst DDS, PhD, <http://bit.ly/JeremyDQPH>
 DentaQuest. Partnership for Oral Health Advancement
 American Association of Pediatric Dentistry
 Yasmi O Crystal DMD, MSc, FAAPD, New York University College of Dentistry, *Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF) current evidence for the management of dental caries*
 DentaQuest Tennessee