

Medical Management of Caries:

Silver Diamine Fluoride

Silver Diamine Fluoride is an antimicrobial treatment for the infection that causes tooth decay and for the reduction in tooth sensitivity. Silver Diamine Fluoride has been used extensively in numerous countries around the globe for decades and is FDA approved.

Benefits of Silver Diamine Fluoride

- ★ Provides pain relief
- ★ Stains visible & hidden tooth decay
- ★ Provides relief for sensitive teeth
- ★ Plaque management
- ★ Helps prevent decay caused by dry mouth
- ★ Offers a No Needle/No Drill alternative treatment



Just a scar

Why Choose Silver Diamine Fluoride

- ★ Diagnostic tool for cavity detection
- ★ Strengthens teeth making them more acid and abrasion resistant
- ★ Tooth is healed STOPPING the spread of disease
- ★ No known side effects other than staining of carious tooth structure
- ★ Provides cost benefits for children and adults

What it looks like



Tooth Scaring

How does it work?

Silver Diamine Fluoride is a potent antimicrobial agent used to kill germs that cause cavities. The free silver ion from Silver Diamine Fluoride is absorbed into the bacterial cell and disrupts cellular metabolism which kills the bacteria. When applied to a tooth with a possible cavity, active caries lesions become inactive and the risk of future decay is reduced. Providing important clinical feedback due to its potential to stain visible and hidden lesions.



How do I know it is working?

The *scar* caused by the cavity is turned black by the Silver Diamine Fluoride. When this occurs, the dark surface becomes hard to gentle probing. This also reduces sensitivity to hot, cold, and sweets. Most importantly, an arrested cavity does not grow in size. Data on this procedure suggests that when all active cavities become inactive, there is a reduced chance of new cavities developing.



Who will benefit from this treatment?

Everyone can benefit from the treatment of Silver Diamine Fluoride. Children can have a no needle/no drill treatment to save baby teeth for eating, speaking, smiling and keeping place holders for permanent teeth. Adults can manage treatment over time, particularly when dealing with multiple areas of decay. As Silver Diamine Fluoride slows or even stops decay from progressing allowing patients the ability to manage appointment time and expense of future restorative work. Provides a stop gap method of care for frail seniors and physically or mentally challenged patients that can prevent expensive hospital visits while improving quality of life. This treatment can also help manage the side effects of dry mouth caused by increased medication.



"The important thing is having an antimicrobial step to control and arrest the caries prior to entering a restorative phase."

-Dr. Steven Duffin, D.D.S.

