

# What is Silver Diamine Fluoride?



Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF) is an FDA-approved topical solution that treats and prevents tooth decay and reduces tooth sensitivity. Treatment with SDF does not eliminate the need for restorative dentistry (fillings, crowns, etc.) to repair function or aesthetics but is effective in preventing further decay. SDF will only be used to treat posterior (back of the mouth) teeth and will leave a dark stain on the decay as pictured above. Only the decay/cavity will stain, not the solid tooth structure.

## **Advantages of SDF:**

- Kills the bacteria that cause cavities
- Provides immediate relief from tooth hypersensitivity
- Application does not hurt and no drilling or injection of anesthetic is needed

## **Risks of SDF:**

If accidentally applied to the skin or gums, a brown or white stain may appear, but will cause no pain or harm and disappear within 3-5 days.