

# Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF)

## What is SDF?

SDF is currently cleared by the FDA as a desensitizing agent, but also has an off-label use that is growing in popularity: SDF can be used to arrest caries lesions.

## Benefits of SDF

- Application is easy and painless, with no local anesthesia needed.
- Useful for patients who have trouble getting oral health care (ex: patients fearful of needles/dental equipment, children who have difficulty cooperating with dental staff, children with intellectual or developmental disabilities, etc.).
- Low-cost

## Considerations for use of SDF

- SDF application can result in a permanent black stain on the arrested caries lesions.
- SDF contains silver, and should not be used on children with allergies to silver or who have sores or ulcers in their mouth.
- Should obtain signed consent (ideally including photos) to ensure patients know that if SDF is used on caries, there will be a black stain.

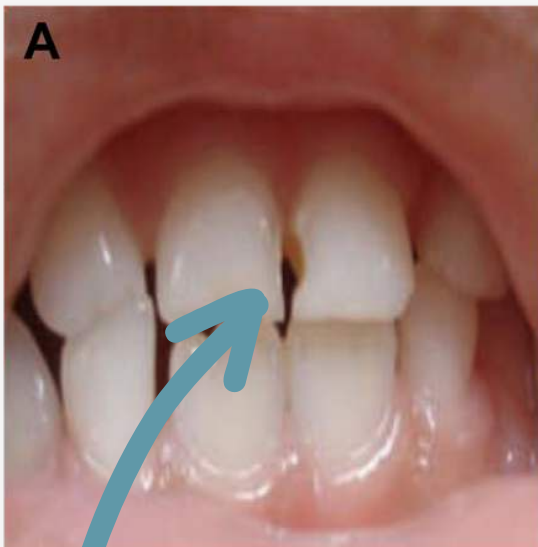
[Sample Informed Consent Form for SDF from DentaQuest](#)

## CPT Coding for SDF (2024)

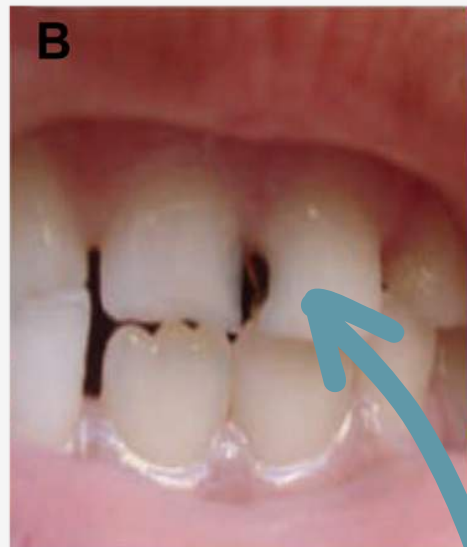
CPT Code 0792T (Category III CPT code) will be available for billing for SDF application to a tooth/teeth in the medical office beginning January 2024.

- ▶ Category I: These codes have descriptors that correspond to a procedure or service.
- ▶ Category II: These alphanumeric tracking codes are supplemental codes used for performance measurement.
- ▶ Category III: These are temporary alphanumeric codes for new and developing technology, procedures and services.

### SDF Applied (a technique of the future, here now!)



Cavity



Silver Diamine  
Fluoride applied