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Consent for Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF) Therapy

Patient Name: _____ DOB: _____

The use of silver diamine fluoride in dentistry is well documented for its safe and successful ability to help slow or stop the progression of tooth decay and/or sensitivity. Although it does turn cavities black in color, the amount of blackness will be limited to areas of decay only. It does not stain healthy tooth structure. Treatment of tooth decay with Silver Diamine Fluoride does not always prevent the need to place a regular filling in the affected tooth in order to restore function, esthetics, or help prevent infection. Additional applications may be needed. Photos are available upon request to show examples of potential stain.

It has been shown that SDF applied at least once a year effectively stopped the growth of 65-70% of active cavities. SDF is a liquid containing silver particles and 38% fluoride ion and is made up of 25% silver, 8% ammonia, 5% fluoride and 62% water. The FDA has granted SDF "breakthrough therapy status." It is ideal for cavities on highly anxious children, partially erupted teeth, or smaller cavities that may continue to grow and cause complications. There have been no toxic or adverse events reported.

It is not a guaranteed treatment. Fillings and/or additional applications may have to be done in the future.

There is a fee for this service. You may call the insurance to see if they cover the procedure: the dental code to reference is D1354. Most insurances do not cover this procedure.

Contraindications: Allergy to silver or Silver Diamine (very rare); very large decay approaching the nerve.

Young children may resist treatment and parents may need to hold them. The parent is free to stop the application of SDF at any point during the procedure.

Possible Side Effects:

- 1) Permanent black coloration of any cavity. It may be removed with a filling.
- 2) Temporary brown spot on skin or gum discoloration (21 days) if SDF contacts it.
- 3) Discoloration of an existing filling on the tooth.
- 4) Discoloration of white areas of decay. If done on front teeth, this will cause the teeth to look black in areas.
- 5) Bitter taste in mouth immediately afterward that resolves.

This form has been explained to me and I understand there is no guarantee this treatment option will stop the progression of decay. Untreated decay can lead to pain, infection/abscess or result in tooth extraction. I am aware of the expected permanent black stain in the area of the decay and realize that esthetics may be compromised. I understand there is a potential for temporary (2 week) brown staining of skin and gum tissues.

By signing below, I confirm that I have read, understand and agree to the above.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

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