

Rule XXVI. Application of Silver Diamine Fluoride by Dental Hygienists

(Adopted June 14, 2018, Effective August 14, 2018)

Pursuant to sections 12-35-125(1)(j) and 12-35-128.8, C.R.S., upon completion of a post-secondary course or continuing education as stated in B (2) and (3), a dental hygienist may place/apply silver diamine fluoride in a dental office setting under the "direct supervision" (defined by section 12-35-103(6), C.R.S.) or "indirect supervision" (defined by section 12-35-103(10), C.R.S.) of a dentist, or through "telehealth supervision" (defined by section 12-35-103(17), C.R.S.) for purposes of communication with the supervising dentist. A dentist who supervises a dental hygienist that applies silver diamine fluoride under telehealth supervision must have a physical practice location in Colorado for purposes of patient referral for follow-up care.

- A. The application of silver diamine fluoride may not be assigned to an unlicensed professional.
- B. In order to be eligible to apply silver diamine fluoride, a dental hygienist must:
 1. Hold a license in good standing to practice dental hygiene in Colorado;
 2. Successfully complete training that covers a minimum of one (1) hour of live and interactive instruction, including but not limited to:
 - a. Instruction on the use of proper placement and techniques of silver diamine fluoride (SDF);
 - b. Limitations of SDF;
 - c. Uses for SDF in clinical practice;
 - d. Mechanisms of action of SDF;
 - e. Diagnostic criteria, contraindications and limitations of SDF; and
 - f. Protocols for handling sensitivity, complications, or unsuccessful completion and follow up.
 3. Training must be obtained through a course provided or recognized by any of the following organizations (or a successor organization):
 - a. A Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) accredited institution;
 - b. The American Dental Association (ADA) Continuing Education Recognition Program (CERP);
 - c. The Academy of General Dentistry (AGD) Program Approval for Continuing Education (PACE); or
 - d. The American Medical Association (AMA).
 4. Carry current professional liability insurance, on his/her own or through the supervising dentist, in the amount specified in section 12-35-141 C.R.S.

5. For indirect supervision or telehealth supervision have a collaborative agreement with a Dentist that describes the silver diamine fluoride protocols, any restrictions or limitations, follow-up and referral mechanisms.

i. The dental hygienist shall:

- a. Retain ~~the written articulated plan the collaborative agreement~~ with the collaborating dentist's signature on file;
- b. Review the ~~plan agreement~~ annually; and
- c. Update the ~~plan agreement~~ as necessary.

ii. The ~~articulated plan-collaborative agreement~~ is subject to Board review and the dental hygienist shall provide the plan to the Board upon request.

C. When applying silver diamine fluoride pursuant to this rule, at a minimum, the following must be documented in the patient's record:

1. Teeth treated;
2. Date of the procedure;
3. Rationale for applying the agent; and
4. Any required disclosures.

D. If the application of silver diamine fluoride is authorized by a supervising dentist at a location other than the dentist's practice location, the dental hygienist shall provide the patient or the patient's representative with written notification that the ~~care was provided at the direction application of silver diamine fluoride is being provided in collaboration with the of the~~ supervising dentist. The dental hygienist shall include in the written notification the dentist's name, practice location address, and telephone number.

E. A dental hygienist who ~~obtains a supervising dentist's diagnosis, treatment plan, and instruction to apply applies~~ silver diamine fluoride ~~in collaboration with a supervising dentist~~ utilizing "telehealth by store-and-forward transfer" (defined by section 12-35-103(16), C.R.S.) shall notify the patient of the patient's right to receive interactive communication with the distant dentist upon request. Communication with the distant dentist may occur either at the time of the consultation or within 30 days after the dental hygienist notifies the patient of the results of the consultation.

F. Pursuant to 12-35-129(1)(oo), C.R.S., the Board may take disciplinary action against an applicant or licensee for failing to comply with the requirements regarding the application of silver diamine fluoride.