



Serial: The Dental cosmos; a monthly record of dental science. [Vol. 66]

Title: *The Value of Ammoniacal Silver Nitrate and Formalin in Cavity Preparation and Prophylaxis.* [Volume 66, Issue 4, April, 1924, pp. 461-463]

Author: Booth, Wm. W.

Collection: Dental Cosmos

Rights/Permissions: The University of Michigan Library provides access to these materials for educational and research purposes. Very few of these materials may be protected by copyright. If you decide to use any of these materials, you are responsible for making your own legal assessment and securing any necessary permission. If you have questions about the collection, please contact Digital Library Platform & Services at dlps-help@umich.edu. If you have concerns about the inclusion of an item in this collection, please contact Library Information Technology at LibraryIT-info@umich.edu.

[Table of contents](#) | [Add to bookbag](#)

(461)

The Value of Ammoniacal Silver Nitrate and Formalin in Cavity Preparation and Prophylaxis.

By WM. W. BOOTH, D.D.S., Pittsburgh, Pa.

SO much has been written and demonstrated about the sterilization of putrescent root canals by the method first advocated by Dr. Percy Howe some years ago, that the remarkable results are well known. His solutions remain today as originally brought out, but now can be obtained through any of the supply houses, put up in a manner which insures a better stability of solutions, and are more easily handled than formerly. So far no adequate or effective method has been worked out to prevent the permanent blackening of the root in canal work, and it is on account of that fear of discoloration that the use of Dr. Howe's methods is very much limited by most operators, their prejudices even extending against the use of silver nitrate in any form or place.

solution brought out by Dr. Frank Skinner, of Chicago, and used in prophylactic work, or cleaning of the teeth, is composed of potassium iodid, iodin crystals, glycerin and water. This will bleach out the stain of silver nitrate quite rapidly, excepting where the tooth is decayed, or affected by decay. The stain will not penetrate sound dentin, and this fact enables one to distinguish decay so easily that the preparation of the cavity is accomplished with a feeling of its being absolutely clean.

TECHNIQUE FOR DETECTING DECAY.

The technique can be given briefly: After the cavity is opened up and the loose decay, or débris, is removed, the ammoniacal silver solution is applied

Dr. Howe's technique has clearly demonstrated the fact that the ammoniacal silver nitrate has a much deeper penetrating power than just the saturated solution, or the crystals of silver nitrate, and because of the great affinity which the formalin has for the ammoniacal silver, it is possible to sterilize deeply into the tooth structure. With the writer, this action of penetration led him to the use of the solution in cavity preparation and prophylactic work, such as sterilization of the fissures of newly erupted teeth, and obtunding sensitive gingival margins. At first, it was used only in the posterior teeth, then as the fear of discoloration ceased cavities in the anterior teeth were attempted, with no resulting stain. By the prompt application of iodine, an iodide of silver is formed, which, being soluble, is readily removed with alcohol. The disclosing

freely to the cavity on cotton, care being taken not to allow any to run out on the soft tissues if rubber dam is not used. Both the silver solution and the formalin have a decided caustic action, and while the use of the dam is preferable, it is not necessary if care is exercised.

Allow the ammoniacal silver solution to remain but a few seconds. Take up any excess on cotton and apply the 25 per cent formalin solution and, if it does not blacken quickly, apply eugenol. This reaction is quick and the solution will become intensely black. At this stage of operating, it is only desirable to show extent of decay, not especially for sterilization, so the stain may be removed immediately. Now apply the iodine disclosing solution freely. The product furnished by the supply houses, and known as Mynol Disclosing Solution, has been found to be very satisfactory.

DENTAL COSMOS, Vol. LXVI, April 1924.



Powered by DLXS

To comment or inquire about content, contact UMDL Help

To report errors, contact DLPS Help