

## D/Sense Crystal Dentin Desensitizer (Project 03-30) (4/04)

D/Sense Crystal is a one-step, syringeable, dentin desensitizer from Centrix, Inc. The desensitizer is a patented solution of potassium binoxalate and nitric acid that reportedly reacts with the smear layer and dentin to precipitate tiny crystals of calcium oxalate and potassium nitrate. The crystals purportedly seal the dentinal tubules and the entire dentinal surface with a 3-micron thick acid-resistant complex. Dual-action protection is provided, the company claims, by both tubule occlusion and the desensitizing effects of potassium nitrate. D/Sense Crystal may be used under crowns, bridges, and other restorative materials, or for treatment of sensitive cervical lesions. The soft, disposable applicator tip reportedly will not abrade the tooth surface.



### Manufacturer:

Centrix, Inc.  
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(203) 929-5582  
(203) 929-6804 FAX  
[www.centrixdental.com](http://www.centrixdental.com)

### Suggested Retail Price:

\$44.95 D/Sense Crystal (item number 310106) contains:  
- Six 1-mL multi-use syringes  
- 24 "SofNeedle" tips

### Government Price:

\$34.00 D/Sense Crystal (item number and contents as listed above)

### ADVANTAGES:

- + Quick and easy to apply
- + Moderately effective
- + Effective within minutes
- + Applied in one step from a single-solution syringe
- + Convenient, disposable tufted applicator tips
- + Rinsing or light activation not required
- + Moderately priced
- + Storage requirements printed on box
- + Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) provided

### DISADVANTAGES:

- Evaluators found effectiveness to be equal to or less than their current desensitizing agent
- Sensitivity may occur during application
- Not available in unit-dose syringes
- Instructions do not specifically address how to apply the product when doing bonding procedures
- Difficult to control the flow due to low viscosity
- Lot number and expiration date not printed on individual syringes
- Long-term effectiveness unknown

### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS:

D/Sense Crystal is a one-step, single-solution, desensitizing product that evaluators reported to be quick and easy to apply. Most of the users found the manufacturer's instructions easy to understand and were satisfied with the degree of detail and the description of the product's application technique. However, more technique details are needed outlining the use of the desensitizer with bonding agents. D/Sense Crystal's packaging and dispensing system were rated highly by the evaluators. A majority of the evaluators reported that some patients experienced some sensitivity during application. The product was moderately effective, with over 45% of treated patients anecdotally reporting relief within several minutes after treatment. D/Sense Crystal was rated as "Average" by most of the evaluators, finding it equal to or less effective than their current desensitizing agent. For the treatment of commonly-encountered dental sensitivity from cervical lesions, bleaching, and periodontal surgery, **D/Sense Crystal** is rated **Acceptable** for use by the federal dental services.