

Sedation

Sedation is a management technique that uses medication to assist a child in coping with fear and anxiety and to cooperate with dental treatment. It can be used for children who have a moderate level of anxiety or who are too young to cooperate for dental treatment. Most children become relaxed and/or drowsy and may drift into a light sleep from which they can be aroused easily. Unlike general anesthesia, sedation is not intended to make a child unconscious or unresponsive. Some children do not sedate as easily as others and may in fact become agitated. Younger children frequently require a deeper level of sedation in order to be cooperative. However, with deeper levels of sedation, the risks increase. In recognition of this, our office does not perform deeper levels of sedation. In cases of greater anxiety or when there is an extensive treatment plan, general anesthesia may be necessary.

Safety

Sedation is a safe method of restoring your child's dental health when administered by a trained pediatric dentist.

It is your responsibility to keep our office informed of any medical conditions, allergies, and medications or supplements your child is taking prior to and the day of the sedation appointment.

You are welcome to accompany your child to the treatment area although we ask that you keep verbal communication to a minimum. This will help your child to focus on what we are asking of him/her. In some cases we may ask you to step out of your child's direct vision as this can sometimes facilitate improved cooperation and more efficient treatment.

Instructions prior to appointment

- A parent or legal guardian must accompany your child and must remain in the office until treatment is completed. Please do not bring any siblings to the appointment. *We recommend two adults be present for the drive home.*
- A deposit of \$75 is required and will be credited towards the sedation appointment. The deposit is not refundable if less than 48 notice is given to cancel the appointment.
- We recommend you have minimal discussion at home with your child prior to the dental appointment. We have found that children generally respond well to the terminology that we use that may be less fearful and anxiety-causing than that used in the house.
- It is imperative that we have the most current health status of your child, including any medications and allergies. Should your child become ill or suffer any head trauma within a few weeks of the dental appointment please inform us. It may be necessary to postpone the appointment.
- Your child should not have solid foods for 6 hours prior to the appointment. Clear liquids (water, apple juice, 7-Up, Jello) can be taken up to 4 hours prior to the appointment. If your child takes morning medications for any medical condition please ask Dr. Gazori whether the medication should be taken or withheld that morning.
- Your child should wear loose fitting, light clothing and should use the restroom prior to arriving in our office. Please bring a change of clothing as well.
- We will administer the sedation medication in the office after completing our preoperative assessment of your child.
- **Please arrive 15 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment. Late arrival will most likely result in having to reschedule.**

Child's name: _____

Appointment date and time: _____

Medication and dosage: _____

Your child should not eat past _____ or drink clear fluids past _____

Other instructions: _____