

PRE SEDATION INSTRUCTIONS

Conscious sedation is used to reduce or eliminate anxiety in your child, so that quality dental treatment can be rendered in a safe and comfortable setting. It is not meant to put your child to sleep. The medication given to your child depends on your child's weight and age. The medication will be given in the office 30-60 minutes before the dental appointment, depending on the medication being used. Although it is rare, occasionally the medication may make your child more active. If this happens, we may not be able to complete dental treatment that day. The dentist will discuss the situation with you if it occurs, along with possible alternative methods. The medications we use are usually very effective, but you must understand that it does not work on all children. During the appointment, the dentist will most likely also use nitrous oxide to maintain child in a sedated state and to help with behaviour management. A pediatric wrap may be used during the treatment to stabilize your child, and to provide a controlled, safe environment for your child.

You, as a parent/legal guardian, play a key role in your child's dental care. For your child's safety, you **must** follow the instructions below.

Prior to the appointment:

- Please notify us of any changes in the child's health. Fever, ear infection, nasal or chest congestion, or recent head trauma could place your child at increased risk for complications. Should your child become ill just prior to a sedation appointment, contact our office to see if it is necessary to postpone the sedation.
- Tell us of any prescribed, over the counter, or herbal medications your child is taking, or any allergies to any medications
- Foods and liquids must be restricted in the hours prior to sedation. Fasting decreases the risk of vomiting and aspirating stomach contents into lungs, a potentially life-threatening problem. **ONLY CLEAR LIQUIDS 4oz (WATER AND APPLE JUICE CAN BE GIVEN 2 HOURS PRIOR)**
- Dress your child in loose fitting clothes. This will allow us to place monitors that evaluate your child's response to the medication.
- Do not bring other children to the appointment so that you can focus your attention to the child undergoing sedation
- If you are driving it is recommended to have two adults accompany the patient home

During appointment:

- If any sedative medications are administered before your child enters the treatment room you must watch your child closely and remain next to them. As a child's parent/legal guardian, you must remain in the office throughout the appointment. You may not leave the office for any reason.
- The doctor and staff will evaluate your child's health status before discharge. Children recover from effects of sedation at different rates so be prepared to remain at our office until the doctor determines the child is stable and ready to head home.