

Instructions for your child's sedation

Conscious sedation is utilized to reduce excessive anxiety or to calm an active child to a level that quality dental treatment can be accomplished. Conscious sedation is not intended to put your child fully to sleep, nor is it the one panacea that works for every child. Dr. Morrow, Dr. Lai and Dr. Edwards feel that conscious sedation with your child is preferable to the alternatives: a negative dental experience, no dental treatment at all, or dental treatment under general anesthesia.

We normally utilize a mixture of the oral drugs Demerol and Visteril for the conscious sedation. It is given on a specific dosage tailored to your child's needs. Please be prepared to give an accurate weight of your child on the day of treatment.

During the dental treatment, Dr. Morrow, Dr. Lai or Dr. Edwards will administer nitrous oxide (laughing gas). All doctors also use local anesthetic for the elimination of pain. The child will be experiencing numbness of the cheeks, lips or tongue for up to two hours after his/her dental appointment. Please watch your child closely to minimize the chance of lip mutilation due to chewing during these two hours.

For best results, please:

1. **It is necessary for the child to have nothing to eat or drink after midnight the night prior to the appointment. This includes water the morning of the treatment.** If your child has other medications that need to be taken daily, please call our office at (918) 742-9810 for instructions. Please understand that it will be necessary to reschedule your appointment if you do not follow these guidelines.
2. Call us with as much notice as possible if your child has an illness more severe than a runny nose.
3. Put your child to bed early the night before the scheduled conscious sedation appointment.
4. Have the child wear loose clothing. Please have the child visit the restroom before receiving dental treatment.
5. Make plans to be in the office for two hours during the sedation appointment. A parent or guardian must remain in the office so that any questions may be addressed immediately.
6. After the appointment, expect your child to be sleepy for the next 4-6 hours. Let him or her sleep on the floor or a low couch. Be prepared to have your child watched closely for the rest of the day. Your child will not be allowed to return to school on the day of the sedation appointment, but most are ready to go back the day following the appointment.

If you have any further questions regarding the sedation or appointment times, please call our office at (918) 742-9810.