

# PEDIATRIC DENTAL ANESTHESIOLOGY

*pediatric anesthesia for pediatric dentistry*

## Parent's Information and Instructions

*For more information visit our website at:*

[www.pediatricseparation.com](http://www.pediatricseparation.com)

### Parent's Information

#### **Why is sedation important?**

Most dental procedures in children are completed using local anesthesia, however very young, fearful or uncooperative children also require some sedation. Sedation is a deep sleep that insulates your child from the stress and discomfort associated with dental procedures. It is not the same as general anesthesia used in a hospital. With the young patient asleep and comfortable, your dentist can concentrate on the procedure knowing that your child's breathing, heart activity and general condition are being closely watched by the pediatric anesthesiologist.

#### **Who is a Pediatric Anesthesiologist?**

A pediatric anesthesiologist is a medical doctor who has completed specialty training in anesthesiology and extra training in anesthesia for infants and children.

#### **How is sedation given?**

Sedative medications are given as an intramuscular or intravenous injection that works quickly and reliably within a few minutes. You may hold and comfort your child until the sedative takes effect. Your child may not remember the injection or the office visit. Once in the dental procedure room blood pressure, heart and breathing monitors are placed. Nitrous oxide administered by nose-mask supplements the intravenous sedatives (IV). This allows your child's dentist enough procedure time to complete all of your child's dental treatment in one visit eliminating the need for repeat visits.

#### **Costs**

The professional fees for your anesthesiologist's services are separate from your dental bill. Our services are available by request through your pediatric dental office. We will gladly help patients who have dental or medical insurance receive the maximum benefits provided by your insurance company.

*A higher standard when it matters most*  
Anesthesia provided by a  
Board-certified pediatric anesthesiologist

**Dr. Stone (904)-230-3188**

**Dr. Vila (727)-767-4763**

**Dr. Setzer-Saade (305)-215-7883**

**Parent's Instructions**  
**Please read carefully!**

**Failure to follow these instructions may result in delay or cancellation of your child's procedure.**

**NO FOOD, MILK, FORMULA  
for 6 hours before the procedure**

**Give CLEAR LIQUIDS (water, apple juice, Gatorade) until 3 hours before the scheduled procedure time.**

**Nothing by mouth for the last 3 hours.**

For your safety and your child's safety, parents are not allowed in the treatment room during IV sedation.

Your child needs your supervision and your attention for the entire day. Do not delegate supervision to baby sitters, teachers, day care or others who may not fully understand or be completely committed to your child's care needs.

You are expected to remain in the office during your child's entire procedure should the dentist or anesthesiologist need to consult with you regarding your child's care.

Last minute cancellations are an inconvenience to you, your child, the dental office and the anesthesiologist. If your child develops a cough, a cold, the flu, vomiting, diarrhea, a fever or has any change in health prior to the procedure, please call your child's anesthesiologist immediately.

A child's dental treatment plan is an estimate only. Once the child is sedated and a complete oral exam or x-rays can be done, the time required for a procedure may change.

Time changes in earlier procedures may affect your child's appointment time. On the day of your child's procedure you may be asked to come in earlier or later. Please be available by telephone so the dental office can contact you regarding changes to your child's appointment time. Please be flexible.

Please arrive 30 minutes prior to your child's appointment time. During this time your child will be checked in, weighed, given an opportunity to use the restroom, and you will receive post operative instructions.

Recovery and discharge usually takes 20-60 minutes. Be prepared to stay longer if the anesthesiologist feels it is necessary for your child's safety.

After you leave the office you will be responsible for your child's safety. Use seat belts on the way home, do not hold your child in your lap or lay your child down in the back seat. Your child's balance and coordination can be affected for 3-4 hours.

**Bring another adult to help you!**