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INFORMATION AND CONSENT FOR CONSCIOUS SEDATION

We believe that all children should receive excellent oral health care free from pain or harsh treatment. While most do well in the dental office, there are times when children will not or cannot cooperate sufficiently to allow needed dental procedures to be accomplished. This can be due to the level of cognitive development, anxiety or resistance. In these cases, one treatment option is to use conscious sedation to facilitate dental care. We understand parents feel a need to be with their child during this procedure, however in our experience, the child seems to do best without their parents with them. We will have you wait in the waiting area and if needed we will come and take you back to be with your child. Please read carefully about the expectations and potential risks associated with light sedation.

Sedation techniques usually involve the child taking a sedative medication by mouth, which is enhanced by breathing nitrous oxide (laughing gas). When ideal results are achieved with sedation, your child will be awake and aware of their surroundings. Sometimes the child may appear to drift off to sleep. Children who are usually frightened by noises or new situations will, with sedation, become more peaceful and tend to react calmly. Because we are not putting your child under general anesthesia, these medications do not eliminate pain. Local anesthesia will also be used in the area needing treatment. In addition, sedation may require the use of protective stabilization (see separate protective stabilization consent form). This is used to prevent sudden movements that could result in less than ideal treatment results.

While we always hope for the best results, the use of sedations does not guarantee success. After receiving the appropriate safe dose, up to 35% of children may still be sufficiently uncooperative to treat safely. Children who approach dental treatment with a combative attitude, or have a tremendous fear tend to be poor candidates for sedation. These children may experience a heightened sense of agitation when given sedation. Patient safety is paramount, and excessive bodily movements and attempts to "escape" may result in the decision to discontinue treatment.

Although very rare, the medication may cause side effects such as nausea, vomiting, allergic reaction, breathing difficulties, disorientation, prolonged drowsiness, swelling, itching, convulsions, seizures, or headaches. Although extremely rare, more serious complications such as cessation of breathing or shock could arise.

To minimize the possibility of unfortunate side effects, special scheduling will be required as well as the use of monitoring devices. There will be a special management fee charged for each appointment needed. This fee will be due whether or not your child allows treatment to be rendered. This fee is usually not covered by dental insurance.

Your child may cry loudly at the beginning of the procedure and then lightly fall asleep, perhaps awakening at different points during the procedure. It is also possible your child may cry during the entire procedure. Despite the loud demonstration, the sedation usually creates an amnesic effect, therefore not allowing your child to have a clear memory of the procedure.

Medications to be used:
ALPRAZOLAM (XANAX)
Along with Nitrous Oxide

THE CHILD'S LEGAL GUARDIAN MUST BE PRESENT AT THE OFFICE FOR PROCEDURE.

SEDATION PRE-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

FOR PATIENTS WHO ARE SCHEDULED FOR SEDATION OR GENERAL ANESTHESIA FOR DENTAL TREATMENT. IT IS IMPORTANT FOR YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY THAT YOU FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS COULD RESULT IN UNNECESSARY COMPLICATIONS.

ARRIVAL: You and your child will need to be on time, arriving late may result in insufficient time to complete the planned treatment. This may result in less treatment completed or the whole appointment being rescheduled.

EATING: The best results can be achieved if your child has not eaten before treatment. To ensure the proper effectiveness of sedation and avoid vomiting, please **ONLY HAVE A LIGHT BREAKFAST OR NOTHING AT ALL.**

Light breakfast examples includes:

- Toast with butter
- Plain yogurt

CLOTHING: Please dress you child in a short-sleeved top and loose comfortable pants or pajamas are great. Avoid hair styles that tie at the back of the head.

MEDICINES: **DO NOT** give your child **ANY MEDICATIONS OR DRUGS** that have not been previously discussed with the Doctor.

CHANGE IN HEALTH: Inform the office if there has been any change in your child's health status, including a cold or fever.

POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

FOR PATIENTS WHO HAVE RECEIVED SEDATION OR GENERAL ANESTHESIA FOR DENTAL TREATMENT. IT IS IMPORTANT FOR YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY THAT YOU FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS COULD RESULT IN UNNECESSARY COMPLICATIONS.

ACTIVITIES: DO NOT plan or permit activities for your child after treatment. Allow your child to rest and closely supervise any activity for the remainder of the day. When sleeping, encourage your child to lay on his/her side or stomach.

GETTING HOME: Your child should be closely watched for signs of difficulty breathing. Make sure they are carefully secured in a car seat or seat belt during transportation. Preferred to have an extra set up hands to sit with them in backseat but not required.

DRINKING OR EATING AFTER TREATMENT: After treatment, the first drink should be plain water. Clear liquids can be given next such as fruit juice, 7-UP, Gatorade, Ginger Ale, soup broth. Small drinks taken repeatedly are preferred to taking large amounts. Soft, bland food, not to hot such as scrambled eggs, mashed potatoes, yogurt, pudding, ice cream, may be taken when desired.

TEMPERATURE ELEVATION: Your child's temperature may be elevated to 101F for the first 24 hours after treatment. Tylenol every 3 to 4 hours and fluids will help alleviate this condition.

EXTRACTIONS: If your child has had teeth removed, a small amount of bleeding is normal. Do not let your child spit or use a straw the first 24 hours as it will cause more bleeding.

BRUSHING TEETH: Since your child has had a cleaning and fluoride treatment today, it is not necessary to resume tooth brushing until tomorrow morning, however, it is very important that you start brushing and flossing daily after that to prevent future dental problems.

BEHAVIOR: A child's surgery can be a difficult experience for everyone in the family and your child may have a hard time adjusting at home. Your child may temporarily behave differently from normal with problems such as:

1. Sleep Pattern Changes- Lethargic
2. Clingy behavior- Hyperactivity
3. Eating changes –Appetite loss

SEEK ADVICE: Please reach out if any of the following issues occur:

1. Temperature above 101 degrees F for over 24 hours.
2. If vomiting persists beyond 4 hours.
3. If there is any difficulty breathing or coloration of the skin is poor.
4. If any other matter causes you concern.