



Pre-Operative instruction for Oral Sedation

It is important for your child's safety that these instructions be understood and followed carefully.

Change in health

Please notify our office of any change in your child's health prior to the sedation appointment. Ex: Changes in medications, fever, ear infections, cold, flu, cough, congestion or runny nose. If necessary, your child will be reappointed to a more appropriate day.

Eating and Drinking

Your child is not allowed to eat or drink **6 hours** prior to the sedation appointment.

Daily Medications

If your child takes daily/routine medications such as seizure medications, antibiotics, ADHD medications, asthma medications, or other medications prescribed by your child's physicians, please discuss this with the doctor

Preparation day of your child's sedation appointment

Your child must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian for all sedation appointments.

Please arrive at our office 30 minutes prior to your appointment time to allow pre operative health assessment. This also allows time for the medication for 30 minutes before starting treatment.

If possible, please do not bring any other children with you, especially younger children, to the sedation appointment. Your child will need your undivided attention, particularly prior to the appointment and during the recovery period at the end of the appointment.

It's a good idea to make sure your child uses the bathroom prior to arriving at our office. Your child will also be asked if they need to use the restroom before the sedation.

What to expect during your child sedation appointment



The doctor will review the pre operative assessment and weight of your child. Then will dose the sedation medications to be used with your child. The medication Brewer Dental Center uses for pediatric oral sedation is Midazolam. Midazolam is a sedation medication that is in the family of medications like Valium. It's a very safe and effective drug. It works within 20-30 minutes and has amnesic properties so that your child may not remember much of the treatment. This medication is provided in liquid form.

After your child has had the medication, you will be asked to sit with your child for the next 15-30 minutes until an effect is seen in your child. It is imperative that your child sit throughout this time because his/her coordination may be impaired.

During your child's dental treatment

We will bring your child to our sedation room. Nitrous oxide (laughing gas) may be administered. The oxygen provided in nitrous oxide is an added benefit to the safety of the sedation and the combined effects of the nitrous provide for a more comfortable experience.

For your child's safety, pillows to hold their legs and a blanket to wrap up their arms may be used. This is used solely for protection from sharp instruments and other potential injuries. If you have concerns with this technique, please discuss them with the doctor prior to your child receiving the sedation medication.

After your child is brought to our sedation room, we may ask that you remain in the waiting room throughout the entire procedure and do not leave the office. Typically, the sedation can last from 45-75 minutes.

Pediatric conscious sedation is provided to relax your child but it is not a deep sedation. The goal is to provide a more comfortable experience for your child and an easier environment to perform dental treatment. You should expect that your child will be awake for most of the sedation and responding to the doctor and assistants.

In the event that your child falls asleep during treatment, monitors will be placed on your child to ensure adequate vital signs.

Please remember that the medication is only a sedative and not a general anesthetic so numbing your child with local anesthesia "Shot" is still necessary to perform dental treatment.

After dental treatment



After dental treatment is completed, we will monitor your child's recovery for 10-15 minutes in the room.

The recovery period will have started as the sedation medication wears off. Recovery is similar to waking your child up from a deep nap so please expect some grogginess, upset behavior, crying, and angeriness.

You and your child will remain in our office after treatment until your child is awake, alert, can sit up, and move with minimal assistance.

Local anesthesia may have been used to numb your child's mouth during the procedure, your child may want to accidentally chew the lips, cheeks, and/or tongue and/or scratch or rub the face after treatment. Please observe your child very carefully for 3-6 hours after treatment.

Returning home

Your child must be supervised by a responsible adult for a minimum of 3 hours after leaving our office. The adult should monitor for any breathing difficulties.

Your child will have had a long day so far so expect your child to be tired and fatigued. Your child may fall asleep and it's important to monitor your child. Please keep your child's chin up as they sleep to keep their airway clear and arouse your child every 15 minutes to prevent a deep sleep.

Your child must be carefully secured in a car seat or by a seatbelt during transportation. If there is an accompanying adult, this adult should sit in the back of the car to monitor the child.

Do not plan any activities for your child after treatment. This means no playing outside, returning to school/day care, or going to the store. Allow your child to rest and closely monitor any activity for the rest of the day

To prevent dehydration, please start your child on liquids. Small amounts of a milkshake or juice are great starters (and a great reward for a job well done!) and do not require your child to chew.

You may give your child a light meal 1-2 hours after you leave our office to give a chance for the numbness from the local anesthesia to disappear. If too much food or drink is given too early, vomiting will occur.



Your child will continue the recovery period for about 2-6 hours after leaving the office. Your child may become unruly throughout this time, which can be expected.

A small amount of bleeding from the gums around the teeth that were treated can be expected and should stop within 24 hours. Having your child apply biting pressure with gauze/cotton will help decrease any bleeding.

Any minor discomfort your child experiences can be alleviated with Children's Motrin or Children's Tylenol, preferably given 45 minutes to 1 hour after treatment so that your child is still comfortable after the numbness wears off.

Reasons to contact the office after treatment:

- Difficulty breathing
- Difficult to arouse/awaken your child
- Uncontrollable behavior
- Rash or allergic reaction noticed
- Vomiting persists more than 4 hours or more than 3-4 times
- Persistent bleeding where dental treatment was performed

Please contact Brewer Dental Center with addition question before or after treatment at (406) 656-6100