



Jojo Montero Strickler, D.D.S.
Pediatric Dentist

MINIMAL CONSCIOUS SEDATION APPOINTMENT

"AWAKE"

Arrival Time: 1 hr before treatment time

- A sedative medication (diazepam) will be administered before your child is taken to the treatment room. We will ask you to watch your child closely as he/she may become sleepy, dizzy, unsteady, uncoordinated, or irritable. You will need to remain next to your child to prevent injuries that may occur from stumbling/falling.
- You, as the child's parent/legal guardian, must remain at the office throughout the sedation appointment. You may not leave the office for any reason.
- Children recover from effects of sedatives at different rates. At discharge, your child will be responsive, but may be drowsy, crying, or fussy.

Q. - How will you give my child the medication "Happy pill"?

A. - We will have some food (apple sauce) or you are welcome to bring a yogurt or pudding to help with the taste.

Q. - Should I feed my child since he will be numb and can't eat after the appointment?

A. - Not necessary to feed your child. He/she will be able to eat soon after (milkshakes, pudding). If your child is hungry before the visit, a light snack is ok (plain toast, 3-4 crackers). I do NOT want a child with a full stomach. I do NOT want a cranky child because they are hungry.

Q. - What behavior should I expect my child to have?

A. - A wide range of behaviors can be expected; some kids sing more, talk more and are sillier than usual- according to some parents- "loopy and happy", "a little wobbly". Some kids appear unaffected with no change in behavior. If it's a long ride, or your child is tired- your child may fall asleep in the car.

614-876-5500

5138 Norwich Street • Hilliard, Ohio 43026
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Q. - Will you give my child the “gas”?

A. - “Happy air” or “laughing gas” (nitrous oxide) along with the “happy pill” makes a nice combination to help reduce some anxiety.

Q. - Will you still numb my child up and give a “shot”?

A. - If I need to... yes, we will give “tingle/sleepy juice”. We will explain all this to your child. We do not use the word “shot” here, for the benefit of your child, as well as others who may be within listening distance.

Q. - How long will the medication last?

A. - About 4-6 hours in their body. Their appointment may last only up to 1 hour.

Q. - Will my child have pain? Can I take my child back to school?

A. - Just like any surgery, there will be some discomfort and something that feels different in their mouth. Kids relate this to PAIN. If so, some ibuprofen/acetaminophen would be fine. Child should stay with their parent/guardian. Your child may have to miss school for the duration of the day.

Because of universal fear of unknown, curious minds and great questions of the young child - assure your child: “They will tell/show you everything!”

AFTER THE SEDATION APPOINTMENT

Your child may be drowsy for some time after the sedative appointment. If your child wants to sleep, position your child on his/her side with the head supported and the chin up.

Restrict activities for the remainder of the day. Prohibit potentially harmful activities such as bike riding, swimming, using playground equipment, or any activity where balance is important.

In addition to the sedative, we often use local anesthetic to numb the mouth during dental treatment. The numbness usually lasts two hours. Watch to see that your child does not bite, scratch, or injure the cheek, lips, or tongue at this time.

Children may be irritable after treatment. If this occurs, stay with your child and provide a calm environment. If you believe irritability is caused by the discomfort, you may give your child acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil). Follow instructions on the bottle for doing based upon your child’s age/weight.

Please feel free to call the office for any questions or concerns that you might have.

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