



### **PRE-OPERATIVE SEDATION INSTRUCTIONS**

Our main concerns are to provide high quality care and a positive dental experience for your child. In selected instances, sedation is recommended in order to help accomplish these goals by making the dental visit as easy and as comfortable for your child as possible.

Sedation usually involves the use of several drugs together, and that particular combination and dosage of drugs selected is individually tailored to your child's needs. Use of sedation will generally help relax and relieve fear and anxiety. Though we do not "put the children to sleep", they often nap lightly.

In order to help insure a successful sedation appointment, your understanding and cooperation of the following is necessary:

**Morning appointment:** Children requiring sedation must be appointed in the morning after your child has had a restful sleep.

**Arrival at our office:** Since sedation drugs are administered orally and require approximately **one hour** to be effective, we will ask you to arrive at our office **one hour** early so we may administer the appropriate medications. Your child should be encouraged to go to the bathroom at home or at the office before treatment. Please be on time or early. We often cannot accommodate late arrivals due to the time required for the medications to work.

**No eating or drinking before the appointment:** To help absorption of the drugs and minimize nausea and vomiting, your child should not have any food or milk within 6 hours of the procedure. Your child may eat clear Jello or drink clear liquids such as water, Gatorade, apple juice up to three hours before the administration of the sedative drugs.

**Do not give your child any medications before or after the sedation appointment:** Dr. Lee must be informed of any drugs or medications your physician has prescribed.

**Supervision after the sedation:** Since your child will be drowsy for two to three hours after the appointment, **SUPERVISION** by an adult must be arranged. Your child should be encouraged to drink liquids and to continue resting. Use of nitrous oxide and oxygen analgesia mask that fits over the nose, eye protection, mouth opening devices and other dental devices may cause facial skin drying and irritation. Since the lips and tongue may continue to be numb, your child should not be allowed to chew or bite for at least two hours after returning home.

**Reaction of child:** The sedative drugs administered enable your child to be very receptive to positive and rewarding communication. Your child will barely remember having been in the office. Therefore, praise and good feelings are encouraged after the sedation. Because of the child's inability to be cooperative and to be easily distracted, parents are not allowed in the treatment room. Children often cry when initially separated from their parent. Please do not be alarmed as this is normal behavior and they usually settle down once we get them comfortable. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

### **MONITORING**

Your child's respiration and heart rate will be monitored throughout the procedure. The oxygen saturation and pulse rate will be monitored with a **Pulse Oximeter** instrument. To do this we must tape a comfortable clip to your child's finger or toe. At no time is your child left unattended during treatment.