

**Sweet Peadiatric Dentistry**  
**Pre-Appointment Instructions**  
**Moderate Sedation for Dental Procedures**



We have recommended moderate sedation for your child's dental procedures. Moderate sedation can help increase cooperation and may reduce anxiety associated with dental treatment. The medicines will be selected based upon your child's overall health, level of anxiety, and dental treatment recommendations. Most children become relaxed and/or drowsy and may drift into a light sleep from which they can be aroused easily. Unlike general anesthesia, moderate sedation is not intended to make a patient unconscious or unresponsive. Some children may not experience relaxation but an opposite reaction such as agitation or crying. These are common responses to the medicines and may prevent us from completing the dental procedures. In any case, our staff will observe your child's response to the medications and provide assistance as needed.

You, as parent/ legal guardian, play a key role in your child's dental care. Children often perceive a parent's anxiety and can make them more fearful. They tolerate procedures best when their parents understand what to expect and prepare them for the experience. If you have any questions about the sedation process, please ask. As you become more confident, so will your child.

For your child's safety, you must follow the instructions below.

**Before your child's sedation appointment:**

**Eating and Drinking:**

**NO** solid food by mouth after midnight. CLEAR liquids (water, apple juice) may be consumed up to 2 hours prior to the appointment; NO MILK or other dairy drinks may be consumed! Breast feeding should be stopped 6 hours prior to appointment. Failing to comply with this instruction will require the appointment to be rescheduled.

**Clothing:**

- Please have your child in comfortable, loose fitting clothes.
- Please AVOID excessive jewelry as it can interfere with the procedure.
- Consider putting either a diaper or pull-up on your child prior the appointment; attempt to have your child use the restroom before the appointment as well.

**Medications:**

- Take all regular medication as prescribed with a small sip of water IF any medications require being taken with food, please inform our office.
- If your child has ASTHMA or other breathing problems, please inform our office to discuss our pre-treatment regimen as it applies to your child.
- If your child has DIABETES and is INSULIN dependent, please inform our office to discuss our pre-treatment regimen as it applies to your child.

**Change in Health:**

- Please notify our office of any change in your child's health and/or medical condition. Fever, ear infection, nasal or chest congestion, or recent head trauma could place your child at increased risk for complications.
- Should your child become ill within 3 DAYS PRIOR to a sedation appointment, contact our office to see if it is necessary to postpone the sedation. Most illnesses will require that the procedure be rescheduled.

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**Escort:**

- You are requested to arrange for two adults to be with your child for discharge.
- NO other children should be brought to the appointment.
- NO ONE is allowed to remain in the treatment area after your child has responded to the administration of the medications for reasons of patient safety.
- At least ONE parent/legal guardian must remain at the office during the procedure.

**Unsuccessful Sedation:**

- As the doctor has informed you, oral sedation is not always successful based on your child's temperament. In the case that treatment is left uncompleted due to your child's behavior, **you will still be responsible for the sedation fee.** Your child may need to return for IV sedation with the dental anesthesiologist to complete treatment.

**Other:**

- Please be at the office on time for your child's scheduled appointment. **Late arrival (over 15 minutes) will cause your appointment to be rescheduled.**
- Some physical restraints may be used with the sedation to help control unexpected movement during treatment.
- The pediatric dentist and staff will evaluate your child's health status before he/she will be discharged home. Children recover from the effects of sedation at different rates so be prepared to remain at our office until the doctor has determined your child is stable and the after-effects are minimal. At discharge, your child will be responsive but may be drowsy, crying, or fussing.
- We have reserved 2 to 4 hours of office time for your child's appointment. If you are unable to keep any appointments, please call Sweet Peadiatric Dental to cancel or reschedule. **If you cancel your appointment in less than 24 hours, the appointment is rescheduled by the office due to a late arrival, or failure to comply with the above instructions, a \$100 rescheduling fee will be charged.**
- Bring a blanket for the ride home.
- Do not change your child's daily routine prior to the appointment- Please DO NOT have them stay up late the night before the appointment or have them eat too late.
- Please make arrangements to have appropriate supervision after the appointment.
- Detailed instructions will be given after treatment is complete. DO NOT plan or permit activities for your child after treatment. Allow your child to rest. Keep your child home from school and closely supervise activities for the remainder of the day, especially activities such as stair climbing. If your child wants to sleep, avoid the use of pillows.

**IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THESE INSTRUCTIONS ARE FOLLOWED CAREFULLY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS RELATING TO YOUR CHILD'S TREATMENT, PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE AT 520.363.4774.**