



## Postoperative instructions for oral sedation

Today, your child had dental treatment including a sedative to help calm him/her during treatment. He/she received the following sedative(s):

- Chloral Hydrate
- Diazepam
- Meperidine
- Midazolam
- Hydroxyzine

Children respond to sedation in their own way but the following guidelines may help you know what to expect during the next 24 hours.

The other adult that you brought with you can concentrate on driving. We recommend you take care of your child when he/she is in the car seat.

Once home, your child will still be drowsy and must remain under adult supervision until fully recovered from the effects of sedation. If your child wants to sleep, position your child on his/her side with head supported and the chin up. During this period, check your child's breathing and airway every 3 – 5 minutes. If your child is snoring, reposition the head until the snoring disappears and your child breathes normally. If your child sleeps longer than four hours please awaken him/her gently. If breathing becomes abnormal or you are unable to wake your child, contact 911 immediately.

Nausea and vomiting are occasional side effects of sedation. If vomiting occurs, immediately clear the material from your child's mouth. Once again, be sure the breathing is normal. If breathing becomes abnormal or you are unable to wake your child, call 911 immediately. If vomiting persists for 20 – 40 minutes, contact our office immediately.

Your child should not perform any potentially dangerous activities such as riding a bike, playing outside unsupervised, handling sharp objects, working with tools or toys. or climbing stairs until he/she is back to his/her usual alertness and coordination.

Children may be irritable after treatment. If you believe the irritability is caused by discomfort you may give your child acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil). Follow the instructions on the bottle for dosing based upon your child's age/weight.

Once your child is alert, you may give him/her sips of clear liquids to prevent nausea and dehydration. Small drinks taken repeatedly are preferable to large amounts. The first meal should be something light and easily digestible (e.g. soup, Jell-O, applesauce). Do not give fatty or spicy foods (e.g. french fries, tacos, salsa, milk, cheese or yogurt).

A slight fever (temperature to 100.5 degrees Fahrenheit) is not uncommon after sedation. You may give your child acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil). Follow the instructions on the bottle for dosing based on your child's age/weight. Because dehydration may cause a slight increase in temperature, clear fluids may help correct this condition. If a higher fever develops or the fever persists, call our office.

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