



HAMILTON CO. PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

Sedation Postoperative Instructions

You play a vital role in the successful treatment of your child! We ask for your assistance with postoperative home care by following the instructions below.

- Once home, your child will still be drowsy and must remain under adult supervision until fully recovered from the effects of the sedation. If your child wants to sleep, position your child on their side with the head supported and the chin up. During this period, check your child's breathing and airway every 3-5 minute. If your child is snoring, reposition the head until the snoring disappears and you child breathes normally. If breathing becomes abnormal or you are unable to arouse your child, contact emergency services (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 that breathing is normal. If breathing becomes abnormal or you are unable to arouse your child, contact emergency services (911) immediately. If vomiting persists, contact our office immediately.
- Your child may be drowsy for some time after the sedation appointment. 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 medications, we often use local anesthetic to numb the mouth during dental treatment. The numbness usually lasts 2-4 hour. Watch to see that your child does not bite, scratch, or injure the cheek, lips, or tongue during this time.
- Children may be irritable after treatment. If this occurs, stay with your child and provide a calm environment. 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 on your child's weight.
- Once your child is alert, you may give 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 (eg, soup, apple sauce, Jello-O). Do not give fatty or spicy foods (eg, French fries, tacos, salsa, milk, cheese, yogurt).
- A slight fever (temperature to 100.5 degrees) 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 upon your child's age weight. If a high fever develops, call our office.

It has been our pleasure treating your child. Thank you for your cooperation and confidence. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

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