

INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS REFERRED FOR DENTAL TREATMENT UNDER SEDATION

You have been referred to us by your own dentist to have treatment under intravenous sedation. This means that a sedative drug (medicine) is given to you by injection into a vein. The sedation makes you drowsy and helps reduce anxiety. This will allow you to have your dental treatment.

Intravenous sedation is usually given by using a single drug called midazolam. A dose of the drug is chosen for you individually. It is given by injection. This is usually into a vein in the back of your hand or in your arm through a cannula.

A cannula is a thin flexible tube. A needle is used to put the cannula in but is then removed immediately. It is normal to feel a sharp scratch when the cannula is inserted. Once the cannula is in the vein, the sedation drug can be given without using any more needles. The cannula remains in until the dentist has checked that you have recovered from the sedation but it will be removed before you go home.

BEFORE YOUR TREATMENT – AT YOUR CONSULTATION APPOINTMENT

You will have two appointments. **The first appointment will always be an assessment/consultation when we will discuss your dental treatment under sedation and plan it with you.** The dental treatment under sedation will take place at the second appointment.

The Dental CATS oral surgery team are highly trained to give sedation. We will watch you closely and treat any problems that may develop. We are also required to use appropriate monitoring equipment during sedation. You will recover and be observed until you have made a full recovery from the sedation.

As with the administration of any medicines, there are risks associated with intravenous sedation. These might include:

- Reduction oxygen in the blood stream due to poor breathing during sedation. You may be asked by your treating dentist to take deep breaths to correct this. Your breathing and oxygen levels will be monitored throughout the procedure.
- Bruising at the site of the cannula. This may take several days to fade completely.

Very rare risks include allergic reactions to the sedative drugs that you have been given or vomiting during the procedure. We will discuss any concerns that you may have prior to the procedure taking place.

It is important that you let us know your medical history, including any medicines that you are taking. The dentist will need to know if you have ever had any problems with having either sedation or a general anaesthetic.

If you think you may be pregnant, you need to let us know. You may need to come back to have your treatment at another time. You should let the dentist know if you are breastfeeding.

You will be able to eat and drink up to 2 hours prior to your treatment appointment. You will also be given this information in writing. It is important that all instructions are followed carefully.

Before any treatment is started, the dentist will ask you to confirm consent. This means that you understand the planned treatment and how you will receive the sedation.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT YOUR TREATMENT APPOINTMENT

You will remain conscious but very relaxed during this kind of sedation. You will NOT be “put to sleep”. Patients can only be put to sleep (general anaesthetic) within a hospital.

You may experience a temporary loss of memory during the time that you are sedated. Many patients have no memory of the procedure at all. You may feel unsteady on your feet for some hours after the procedure. Your ability to think clearly and make judgements may be affected for the next 24 hours. You may experience some forgetfulness.

Once you are sedated, the dentist will use local anaesthetic injections in your mouth (pain relief that numbs the site of the dental treatment). You will then have your dental treatment. You will spend some time recovering following your treatment. You will be checked before you can go home. **You MUST be accompanied by an able-bodied adult who can take responsibility for you following your treatment. A responsible adult will need to look after you for the next 24 hours. If arrangements have not been made for someone to look after you after your treatment, you will not be able to have the sedation.** If you have any questions or are unclear about having your sedation, then do not hesitate to ask your dentist.

AFTER THE TREATMENT

Your judgement will be affected by the sedative drug. This is similar to the effects of consuming alcohol. You should not drive a car, ride a bicycle or operate machinery for 24 hours. You should also not take responsibility for the care of others, use sharp implements or cook. It would be unwise to make any irreversible decisions for up to 24 hours following your treatment. Owing to the after effects of the drugs used, care should be taken when using the internet for personal communication. Do not go on social media such as Facebook or Twitter for 24 hours after your treatment.

Before you are discharged, the dentist or dental nurse will give you and the adult accompanying you (escort) important information about your aftercare. You will be given information relating to any local analgesia and the treatment you have received. We will also provide details of pain relief as well as how and when to take other prescription medicines.

OUR TEAM IS HERE TO HELP AND SUPPORT YOU THROUGH YOUR DENTAL TREATMENT. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE ASK ANY MEMBER OF OUR TEAM.

FEEDBACK AND COMMENTS ARE WELCOME TO MRS KRISTY MILLER PRACTICE ADMINISTRATOR ON 01616433703.



