



Children's Dentistry, P.A.

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Pediatric Dentists

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NITROUS OXIDE ANALGESIA

Your child will be treated using nitrous oxide analgesia. Please read the following information regarding pediatric analgesia. Analgesia derives from the Greek words meaning "without pain". Nitrous Oxide raises the pain threshold of patients without loss of consciousness. This is extremely important from the standpoint of cooperation that we need from the patient.

Nitrous Oxide analgesia is used to:

- 1.- Make the child's dental experience a pleasant one.
- 2.- It allows your child to breathe more oxygen than one can normally breathe from the air while enjoying a remarkable depth of relaxation.
- 3.- It virtually eliminates the apprehension, nervousness, and tension associated with dental procedures and it allows for a cooperative, well managed pediatric patient.
- 4.- It usually induces a feeling of warmth and security as well as a pleasant "floating" sensation.
- 5.- It permits needed injection of local anesthetic (lidocaine) without discomfort, with more profound results in most instances.
- 6.- Please note that analgesia in no way resembles General Anesthesia because your child is always awake.

Before the appointment:

- A) Allow your child to have a good dinner and a good night of sleep the evening before the scheduled appointment.
- B) Please make sure that his/her normal routine is followed the evening prior to the dental appointment (no overnights at relative's house, etc.).
- C) Give your child a light meal 2 hours prior to the visit.
- D) **DO NOT** create fear of the dental treatment. Avoid the negative discussion of dentistry by avoiding the use of words such as drill, grind, hurt, shot, etc. Don't indicate that there is anything to fear.
- E) Finally:

!!! CAUTION PLEASE !!!

Your child will receive a local anesthetic (Lidocaine), possibly for the first time. In addition to the blocking sensation, the anesthetic "numbs" the lips, cheeks, and tongue in the area of treatment. This may be a puzzling or curious sensation for your child, but care must be taken so that your child does not bite, suck, or chew his/her lips or tongue; otherwise laceration (rawness) of the tissues will occur. Therefore, please watch your child closely for 2 to 3 hours after the treatment, and have him avoid eating, if possible, until the anesthesia has completely worn off.
