

## Instructions for Parents of Children Receiving Oral (by mouth) Conscious Sedation

Due to the nature and risks of this procedure, a parent or legal guardian must be present in order to have us sedate your child.

**THIS IS A LIQUID MEDICATION THAT IS TAKEN BY MOUTH. THE MEDICATION WORKS WELL APPROXIMATELY 75% OF THE TIME. YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE ASLEEP.**

### About Sedation:

The goal of conscious sedation is to reduce your child's fears and anxieties in order to provide necessary dental care in the least stressful manner possible. Sometimes, sedation is given to help pre-cooperative children enter a more cooperative state. Sedation is achieved by having the child drink a mixture of medications with sedative properties. After being sedated, approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  of children will relax and do well for their dental treatment. It is the expectation that your child will remain **AWAKE** yet not be fearful while few may sleep on and off throughout the treatment. About  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the children will resist the oncoming sedative state and will cry and be restrained for all or part of the treatment. On occasion, a child will become very disruptive and their behavior may become difficult to manage due to the medication. Don't be alarmed if your child behaves in this manner, our staff is trained to handle these situations.

### Before the Appointment:

**Diet:** Since the sedative medications can irritate the stomach, it is important that you carefully adhere to the following diet restrictions: Your child **MAY NOT EAT OR DRINK** any milk, breast milk, or formula 6 hours prior to the scheduled appointment. Clear liquids such as water, apple juice or Sprite may be given until 3 hours before the appointment. **Failure to comply with the NPO instructions will result in your child's inability to receive ORAL conscious sedation at their scheduled appointment and will cause forfeiture of your sedation prepayment.** It is important that you notify us if your child did eat or drink before the appointment as it could compromise his/her treatment and put your child's health at unnecessary risk. An empty stomach allows the body to absorb the medication better and more reliably.

**Clothing:** We ask that you dress your child in comfortable, non-restrictive clothing. Please consider bringing a change of clothes as one of the more common side effects of our medications is vomiting. **You will be required to remove your child's earrings prior to their sedation visit.**

**Assistance:** Please bring only the child receiving dental care to the office on the day of their sedation. We encourage that a second responsible adult come to the appointment with you since your child will require special, focused attention during and after sedation. However, this is not a requirement.

**Health Changes:** Please inform us immediately if your child develops a cold, fever, congestion, wheezing, difficulty breathing, head trauma or any other illness 1 week prior to the appointment. For the safety of your child, it may be necessary to reschedule the appointment. Please inform us of any medications, including over the counter medications your child has taken within 24 hours of the appointment.