

Standards for Conscious Sedation in the Provision of Dental Care

Report of the Intercollegiate Advisory Committee for Sedation in Dentistry published 22nd April 2015

<http://www.rcseng.ac.uk/fds/Documents/dental-sedation-report-2015-web-v2.pdf>

Summary

This report creates a national standard for the use of conscious sedation in the delivery of dental care. The standards apply to all who practise conscious sedation techniques, whether they **are dentists, doctors, nurses or dental care professionals**. The report of 116 pages has 5 main sections relating to care pathways, sedation techniques, peri-operative care, patient information and education and training. The recommendations which have the greatest impact on oral surgery are highlighted below but are no means exhaustive.

Type of Sedation

Children under 12

Any child under 12 years of age with complex oral needs or any child under 12 years who cannot be managed with either:

- a) behavioural management techniques/local analgesia
- or
- b) local analgesia plus inhalation sedation

with the responsible dental practitioner having received appropriate training should be referred to a team having **skills equivalent** to those expected of a specialist/consultant in paediatric dentistry and a consultant in anaesthesia competent in sedation for dentistry for assessment and treatment in a facility equivalent to an NHS Acute Trust in England.

Children 12-16

Any young person aged 12–16 years with complex oral needs or any young person aged 12–16 years who cannot be managed with *either*:

- a) behavioural management techniques/local analgesia
- or
- b) local analgesia plus inhalation sedation
- or
- c) local analgesia plus midazolam (all routes)

with the responsible dental practitioner having received appropriate training should be referred to a team having **skills equivalent** to those expected of a specialist/consultant in paediatric dentistry and a consultant in anaesthesia

competent in sedation for dentistry for assessment and treatment in a facility equivalent to an NHS Acute Trust in England.

A separate sedationist should be employed if the type of sedation is outwith the standard single drug modalities, e.g., Ketamine, Propofol, Midazolam plus Propofol, Sevoflurane (or if the patient is medically compromised ASA111 or above). In addition the last three can only be done in environment equivalent to an NHS Acute trust and all require capnography.

Clinical environment

All centres providing conscious sedation for the delivery of dental care should be inspected to determine that the necessary standards are in place. All members of the team should be trained and rehearsed in resuscitation techniques commensurate with the sedation techniques employed and the age of the patient being sedated (ILS/PILS)

Training and CPD

From the time of publication of this report (first edition 2015), no healthcare professional should commence the provision of conscious sedation for dental patients without the training described in the report having been satisfactorily completed. However, it is appreciated that there are experienced practitioners currently providing conscious sedation for dentistry who have not received the formal postgraduate training as described in this report. In order to maintain a service for patients, it is appropriate to have 'grandfathering' arrangements in place so that such practitioners can continue to provide conscious sedation services, assuming that they comply with the guidance laid down in this document.

For revalidation in a sedation technique, a practitioner must undergo a minimum of 12 hours of continuing professional development every 5 years that are relevant to the techniques practised. This applies to dentists, medical practitioners, recovery nurses, dental care professionals and **all members of the team providing conscious sedation (including doctors)**.

Educational courses intended to provide training in clinical delivery of conscious sedation and to prepare the team for independent practice must be **assessed**, be **externally quality assured** and incorporate supervised clinical practice. The IACSD through the dental faculties of the UK surgical royal colleges will **accredit all courses** in conscious sedation for dentistry.