

Sedation for minor oral surgery

Intravenous sedation is used to help relax you during minor surgical procedures.

- The sedative is given by injection into a vein (intravenous) in your arm or the back of your hand.
- You will remain conscious at all times and able to talk and respond to instructions.
- You will also receive local anaesthetic (an injection into your gums) so that the treatment can be carried out.
- Afterwards you will probably have little or no memory of the procedure.

If you are having intravenous sedation there are some rules that you must follow for your safety:

- A responsible adult (friend or relative) must stay in the department during your treatment and drive you home afterwards; if not, you cannot have sedation.
- Remember, to tell your oral surgeon before your treatment of any changes in your medical history, your medication and if you have asthma or any allergies

On the day of your treatment

- You can have a light meal up to 2 hours before your treatment if you wish.
- You can drink fluids and take any medicines as normal unless you have been instructed otherwise.
- Do not drink any alcohol.
- Treatment and recovery time is usually 1-2 hours.

After your treatment under sedation

- A responsible adult must drive you home and stay with you for at least 6 hours following the treatment. You must not travel home by public transport such as a bus.
- You should stay at home resting quietly for about 24 hours.
- Do not drive a car, drink alcohol, use machinery (such as a kettle or a bike), do any work or make important decisions for 24 hours, to allow the effects of the sedation to wear off.
- You can eat and drink normally as soon as you feel like it.
- If you have any pain then do not hesitate to take the painkillers as directed.