



Treatment	Description	Risks	Benefits
Local Anesthesia	Medication is used to numb the area of the mouth receiving dental treatment. Patient remains conscious and responsive to commands	Infection, swelling, allergic reactions, discoloration, headache, tenderness at the needle site, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, biting of the cheek, lip, or tongue. It is normal for the numbness to take time to wear off after treatment, usually two or three hours.	Pain is lessened or eliminated during dental treatment.
Conscious Sedation	Orally delivered in the form of syrup. Controlled, minimally depressed level of consciousness that allows the patient to breath independently and continuously responds to physical stimulation and verbal commands. During treatment, your child will be placed in a soft restraint (Papoose Board)	Dizziness, nausea, and vomiting. Adverse reactions to medication, including allergic and life-threatening reactions are possible but rare. Complications may require hospitalization or even result in brain damage or death. With any patient, reflexes are delayed	Pain is lessened or eliminated during dental treatment. Stress, anxiety, and memory of the treatment are greatly reduced
Nitrous Oxide/Oxygen Inhalation Sedation	Mild form of conscious sedation used to calm an anxious patient. It is a colorless, odorless gas that has no explosive or flammable properties and acts as a pain buffer as well. Oxygen and nitrous oxide are given simultaneously through a small mask placed over the nose. At the end of treatment, pure oxygen is given to flush the nitrous oxide out of the patient's system and minimize the effects. The patient is observed from the time the nitrous is administered until the patient has recovered fully from the effects.	Inability to perceive spatial orientation, temporary numbness and tingling, nausea, and vomiting. If a patient will not accept the mask, nitrous oxide cannot be used.	The patient remains awake and can respond to directions and questions. Nitrous oxide helps overcome apprehension, anxiety, and fear.
Intravenous (IV) Sedation	Controlled, depressed consciousness from which the patient is not easily aroused, which may be accompanied by a partial loss of protective reflexes, including the ability to maintain an open airway independently and/or respond purposefully to physical stimulation and verbal commands. This type of anesthesia is also called "Light General Anesthesia" and is usually administered in a dental office	Infection, swelling, discoloration, bruising, and tenderness at the needle site. Dizziness, nausea, and vomiting may occur. Adverse reactions to medication including allergic and life-threatening reactions are possible, but rare. Complications may require hospitalization or even result in brain damage or death.	Pain is lessened or eliminated during the dental treatment. Stress, anxiety, and memory of the treatment are greatly reduced.
General Sedation	Controlled, drug induced state of unconsciousness accompanied by a partial loss of protective reflexes, including the ability to maintain an open airway independently and/or respond purposefully to physical stimulation and verbal commands. This type of anesthesia is usually administered in a hospital or surgery center	Infection, swelling, discoloration, bruising, and tenderness at the needle site. Dizziness, nausea, and vomiting may occur. Adverse reactions to medication including allergic and life-threatening reactions are possible, but rare. Complications may require hospitalization or even result in brain damage or death.	Pain is eliminated and the patient has no recall of the surgical procedure.