

Pediatric Dentistry PC

July 10, 2008

Post-operative Sedation Instructions:

Your child has received medication in order to successfully and comfortably complete the necessary dental treatment. This may be the first time your child has been given a hypnotic agent. We feel that it is important that you follow the instructions.

1. You can expect your child to be confused for a time after he or she awakens. Stay close to comfort, cuddle and reassure as necessary.
2. Your child may have a slightly elevated temperature on the day of the procedure; however, it should return to normal by the next morning.

What to do for child's comfort

1. Once home, let your child rest lying on his or her stomach.
2. If your child feels warm, let him sleep in a cool room. You may even sponge him or her off with cool water.
3. Please follow the ABC's of Sedation.

Airway: Please routinely check breathing until your child is awake.

Balance: Balance is the last reflex to return to normal. Please observe him or her closely and keep indoors for the day.

Call: We will call you within 24 hours to check on your child's status. Please don't hesitate to call sooner if you have any questions.

Diet: As soon as your child awakens, offer soft foods such as soup, yogurt, macaroni and cheese, mashed potatoes or nutritional milkshake.

Extra: Extra care and attention should be given today. Adult supervision is a must, as are car seats and seat belts for the drive home.

Fluids: Fluids should be given as soon as possible to prevent dehydration.

General: Generally, children awaken slowly. It is not unusual for some to wake up cranky and disoriented.

Hygiene: Oral hygiene, such as brushing and flossing, can resume immediately.

Although the medication your child has received is not a general anesthetic, he or she has been sedated. Please follow the safety and care instructions outlined above.