

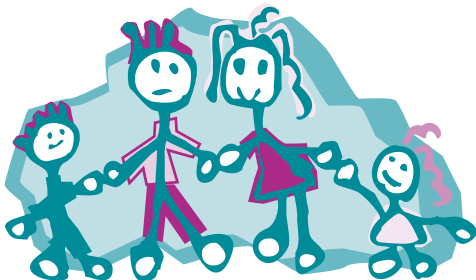
**Children of all ages
are our specialty**

We have recommended that your child's dental treatment be carried out under intravenous procedural sedation. Our intent is to produce cooperative and appreciative patients of the future, not dentally fearful adults. The papers we have provided you will contain answers to many of the questions which you may have. If not, please speak with us.

As parents, you are important partners in helping us to provide the best treatment for your child.

As your child requires our undivided attention, no other patients will be seen during your child's scheduled time. It is important that you keep the appointment. In addition, we must ask that the sedation fee be paid in advance of treatment to secure this appointment time and ensure your cooperation in following all pre-sedation instructions.

Welcome to our Office



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DR. ALAN R. MILNES

**Intravenous
Procedural
Sedation**

**Certified Pediatric Dental Specialist
Helping Infants, Children and Teens**



Tel: 250-763-5101

What is intravenous sedation?

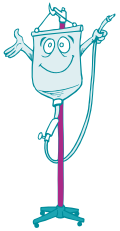
IV procedural sedation is a way of using medication to relax a child. It involves placing a needle into a vein through which medications are administered.

My child is afraid of needles.

Most children are. We will give your child an oral sedative before we start the IV so that they will be more relaxed. The IV needle feels like a small scratch on the back of the hand. EMLA cream is available at your pharmacy. It makes the skin numb.

Who should receive IV sedation?

Children with severe anxiety or who have had difficulty receiving dental care are candidates for IV sedation. In these cases, milder forms of sedation such as nitrous oxide and oxygen or oral sedatives are ineffective. Also traditional behaviour management techniques, which are successful in helping most children to accept dental treatment, are ineffective with very anxious children.



Why utilize IV procedural sedation?

The effects of IV sedation are much more predictable than any other form of sedation. IV procedural sedation helps to create a safer and better environment in which we can provide quality dental care. This can help to prevent injury which may occur if your child is struggling when treatment is attempted without sedation.

What medications are used?

We use several medications for IV procedural sedation. Benzodiazepines are used because they are very safe. We may also use short acting narcotics, antihistamines and neuroleptics. None of these medicines will make your child unconscious when used according to our protocol. We will also ask you questions about your child's general health and medical history to make sure that the medicines we select can be used safely with your child.

Is IV procedural sedation safe?

The short answer is yes. We are fully qualified to administer medications and monitor and manage patients who receive IV procedural sedation. We are certified by the **College of Dental Surgeons of British Columbia** to provide IV procedural sedation. We use the latest in monitoring equipment to assess your child's heart rate, blood pressure, the level of oxygen in the bloodstream and your child's breathing.



These monitors help us to ensure that your child is doing well under sedation while their dental treatment is completed. We are certified in **Advanced Cardiac Life Support and Pediatric Advanced Life Support**.

What instructions should I follow before the sedation appointment?

We recommend that you minimize discussing the dental appointment with your child as this may increase their anxiety. Should your child become ill, contact our office. It may be necessary to choose another appointment. Sometimes the medicines will cause nausea or vomiting. Therefore, it is important that your child not have a meal before the appointment. We will discuss specific food and fluid intake with you prior to the sedation appointment. Refer to the **Preoperative Instructions for Sedation Appointments** which you have received.



What can I expect to happen during the sedation appointment?

Once our dental team is ready to begin your child's appointment, a staff member will bring your child into the treatment room. We ask that you remain in the waiting area. Having a parent present at this time is often more upsetting to you, the parent. If you are upset your child may also become upset. Our goal is to create a peaceful and stressfree environment. Generally, your child will be quite relaxed at this point because of the oral sedative taken earlier. As we perform only conscious sedation, your child will respond to sounds, voices and touch during treatment. If your child is very relaxed they may fall asleep. However, some children may cry briefly during the dental treatment, even though they are obviously sedated. As long as the child's behaviour is cooperative, crying should not cause alarm. Some

children need protective stabilization. This is like a blanket and is wrapped around the child to ensure that he/she does not move too much during the dental treatment. We use this device only for the child's safety. **During sedation appointments, we require a parent to be present in the office waiting area at all times.** After the treatment is completed, your child will be moved to our recovery room where he/she will be monitored by our RNs. You will be able to be with your child here as they recover from the sedation.

What special instructions should I follow after the sedation appointment?

Children who have been sedated should return home for the remainder of the day and should be under parental supervision **indoors**. Your child will likely have only foggy recollections of the dental appointment. The effects of the medication should pass in approximately 12 hours. He/she may experience any of the following side effects from the medication(s) they received:

1. *The child may feel dizzy.* Avoid stairs, bicycles or other activities where a fall could result in injury. Even while walking, hold your child's hand or carry your child.
2. *The child may have nausea and/or vomiting.* To minimize, restrict movement when the child is still sedated. Small sips of cool, clear liquids should be offered first. If these are tolerated well, offer semi-solid foods like soup, noodles or rice.
3. *Very rarely, the child may hallucinate or see things.* Reassure the child that they are safe.
4. *Very rarely, mood swings may occur* wherein a calm, tranquil child will become disoriented or uncooperative. This is usually short-lived.
5. Please refer to the **Discharge Instructions** sheet which you will receive at the end of your child's appointment for additional information.

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