**Intra-venous Sedation.**

How does it work?

Intra-venous sedation is widely used in the dental and medical professions.

It is a way of helping patients relax during procedures that:

-Cause anxiety

-Are unpleasant

-Are of long duration.

IV sedation is given into a vein, usually in your arm. The drug that is used is Midazolam, a benzodiazepine. It creates a feeling of relaxation, and drowsiness. It also has an anti-anxiety effect. Local anaesthetic is used to ensure there is no pain.

You are not put to sleep during IV sedation; however, many patients are relaxed to the point of falling asleep. You will be aware of the dentist working on you, however, and it is important to not be expecting to be totally asleep. We will talk to you and check that you are comfortable during the procedure. You will normally have very little or no memory of the procedure.

To be fully asleep you need a general anaesthetic, in a hospital setting with an anaesthetist.

Your pulse, blood pressure, breathing, CO2 level and blood oxygen levels are monitored throughout the procedure.

**Before your sedation appointment.**

Please inform us of any changes to your medication or if you may be pregnant.

You must not eat for 4 hours prior to the appointment. If you are very thirsty, you can sip a very small amount of water up to 1 hour before.

Please wear comfortable (no high heels) shoes; clothing that has a loose sleeve that is easily rolled up. Bring a warm jersey too, as you may become cold during the appointment.

You must arrange someone to pick you up and accompany you for the rest of the day. We have to hand you over to a responsible adult. A taxi is not acceptable, unless you have someone else accompanying you.

Do not consume alcohol 24 hours before.

**After your sedation appointment.**

You will be drowsy, and may feel as if you are in better shape than you really are.

You cannot drive until the next day.

You should avoid alcohol for 24 hours.

Smoking delays healing.

You must be looked after for the rest of the day.

Don’t perform any important or responsible tasks or decisions, as you will be very forgetful of what you have done.

Do rest and relax. Take plenty of fluids, as you may be dehydrated.

Eating is fine if you can, but will be easier once the anaesthetic has worn off. Be careful not to bite your lips or tongue.

Do take any prescribed medication, and your usual medication if you have any.

**Patient consent form**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_has explained the procedure I am about to have carried out under intravenous sedation to me, prior to the operation.

I consent to the procedure being carried out and have had the procedure explained to my satisfaction by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

I have had the opportunity to obtain additional information regarding the procedure, and any questions I have asked \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have been answered to my full satisfaction.

Finally I acknowledge that I have read and fully understood the consent form. I sign it freely and voluntarily.

Date:

Patient:

Parent or guardian:

Dentist: