

Sedation 401

Team Based BIS Guided TCI Sedation

ISSUED

September 2026

ADMISSION

Not automatic. Every applicant is screened.

REGULATORY BASIS

Dental Council *Sedation practice standard*, March 2026

DEPTH

Minimal and moderate sedation

TEAM

Team of three at all times, never solo

RESUSCITATION

CORE Immediate **REQUIRED**
 CORE Advanced **RECOMMENDED**

FEES, INCL. GST

\$3,800 per operator plus each team member at \$1,900 or \$950

01

SCOPE

FROM THE STANDARD

Advanced sedation training “may only be undertaken by experienced sedationists, with demonstrated safe and effective sedation outcomes.” You remain professionally responsible for ensuring your facility, staffing and training meet the standard, and that the sedation you deliver stays within the intended minimal or moderate depth.

Can I practise TCI sedation in New Zealand?

Yes. The Dental Council's *Sedation practice standard* (March 2026) does not regulate by drug. It regulates by the **depth of sedation you intend**, the **delivery method you use**, and the **team you have around you**.

Target Controlled Infusion is named in the standard, alongside processed EEG monitoring, as an advanced sedation delivery and monitoring tool. It has its own row in the training requirements under standard 17.

An operator-sedationist may provide **minimal and moderate sedation**. What the standard asks is that your training matches the technique: formal sedation training to the Appendix C competencies for intravenous or multi-drug minimal sedation and for moderate sedation, and for TCI and processed EEG specifically, an **advanced training course** carrying the same Appendix C learning outcomes but targeted to the intravenous anaesthetic agents and advanced techniques used.

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TEAM

What is the mandatory team structure?

TCI is an advanced technique and requires a high-functioning three-person team at all times. **You cannot operate solo.**

- 01 **Operator-Sedationist**
Performs the clinical procedure and oversees the sedation.
- 02 **Lead Monitoring Assistant** **SEDATION 401 TRAINED**
A dedicated team member whose sole responsibility is continuous monitoring of the airway and TCI pump parameters.
- 03 **Auxiliary Assistant** **SEDATION 101 TRAINED**
Provides surgical assistance and secondary monitoring.

03

RESUSCITATION

TWO DIFFERENT "ADVANCED" REQUIREMENTS

The standard's **advanced training course** for TCI is *sedation* training. **CORE Advanced** is *resuscitation* training. The standard mandates the first, and asks only for CORE Immediate on the second.

What resuscitation training does the team need?

The practice standard requires every member of the sedation team - operator-sedationist, sedationist and assistants - to hold current **NZRC CORE Immediate** (or equivalent), renewed every two years, including scenario training relevant to the management of sedation-related complications. This applies now.

Separately, the Council begins monitoring compliance with standards 17 and 18, the training requirements and the annual sedation recertification component, from the **August 2027** recertification cycle.

NZSSD RECOMMENDATION

For TCI practitioners we recommend **NZRC CORE Advanced**. This is our recommendation, not a Council requirement. We also recommend **ECG monitoring** for advanced sedation techniques, and CORE Advanced is the level that teaches cardiac rhythm recognition, so the trace on your monitor is one you can read.

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ELIGIBILITY

ADVANCED BACKGROUND WAIVERS

We recognise the clinical backgrounds of certain healthcare professionals. Registered Nurses with acute experience (ICU or PACU), Registered Anaesthetic Technicians and Specialist Paramedics with CCP or ICP endorsements may apply for a Sedation 101 waiver through the pre-course assessment.

What are the entry requirements?

Admission is not automatic. We screen every applicant to confirm the necessary clinical infrastructure is in place, consistent with the standard's restriction of advanced sedation training to experienced sedationists.

- ◆ **Team enrolment.** Clinicians must attend with at least one team member who will qualify as the Lead Monitor. Specialist practices typically require two team members who are Sedation 401 trained.
- ◆ **Overseas sedationists and medical practitioners.** May be able to attend solo, subject to individual practising scenarios.
- ◆ **Baseline prerequisites.** All attendees must hold a current SST (Safe Sedation Training) certificate. Supporting staff typically require a Sedation 101 certificate completed within the last two years. SST modules are included in your registration and provided once enrolment and invoicing are complete.

05

FEES

INCLUDED IN REGISTRATION

The TCI Clinical Manual, access to all pre-reading SST modules, and one year's NZSSD membership if you are not already a member.

What does the course cost?

Fees reflect the specialised simulation equipment and pharmacological models used, and are stratified by training and qualification. Teams enrol together, an operator-sedationist plus at least one team member, each at the fee for their role.

ENROLLING AS	PROFESSIONAL ROLE	FEE INCL. GST
OPERATOR-SEDATIONIST	Dentists, Specialists, Medical Doctors, Sedationists	\$3,800
TEAM MEMBER	Registered Nurses, Anaesthetic Technicians, Specialist Paramedics (CCP/ICP)	\$1,900
	Dental Assistants and Auxiliary Staff	\$950