

# **Caring for your child after intravenous sedation for dental treatment**

## **Information for patients, parents and carers**

This leaflet contains information about how to look after your child after intravenous sedation for dental treatment. If you have any questions, please speak to the dentist looking after your child.

### **How will my child feel after the treatment under sedation?**

The sedation will make your child feel very unsteady on their feet. They will also feel drowsy.

### **Does the sedation affect the mouth?**

Not directly. Your child may have a numb lip and mouth for about 2 to 4 hours after the dental treatment. This is due to the local anaesthetic. Numbness may be mistaken for pain, so reassure your child that it will get better soon.

### **Can my child eat afterwards?**

Your child can drink normally, however, it may be better to avoid eating until the numb feeling has gone away as your child may chew the numb areas of the mouth and it may be painful later. Please follow the aftercare instructions given to you by the surgical team following mouth surgery.

### **How long will my child be drowsy?**

Your child should start to feel normal after approximately 3 hours, although the medicine will remain in the system for approximately 24 hours.

### **Can my child return to school?**

No, not for 24 hours. This includes the day of the surgery and the day after. Your child should also not take part in any physical activity for the next 24 hours.

### **Is drowsiness the only thing I may expect?**

Each child reacts differently. Some will feel sleepy, others will get very agitated or upset as they may be confused or distressed about the way they feel or the numb feeling in their mouth. This could last for 2 to 4 hours.

### **How soon can I take my child home?**

You can take your child home after approximately one hour, depending on their recovery. You should preferably go home by car, but public transport can also be used. You, or an able-bodied adult, must stay with your child for the rest of the day.

## Do I need to take any other precautions?

You should not leave your child unattended.

## Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns about the information in this leaflet, please contact the Department of Paediatric Dentistry. If your child has persistent bleeding, severe swelling or severe pain, please contact us. If out of hours or at weekends, please call NHS 111 or attend your local A&E department for advice.

<b>Central Referral Office</b>	020 3299 4988
<b>Clinic Appointments</b>	020 3299 3055
<b>Secretary</b>	020 3299 3375
	020 3299 4983

For more information leaflets on conditions, procedures, treatments and services offered at our hospitals, please visit [www.kch.nhs.uk/patientsvisitors/patients/leaflets](http://www.kch.nhs.uk/patientsvisitors/patients/leaflets)

## MyChart

Our MyChart app and website lets you securely access parts of your health record with us, giving you more control over your care. Visit [www.kch.nhs.uk/mychart](http://www.kch.nhs.uk/mychart) to find out more.

## Sharing your information

King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust has partnered with Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust through the King's Health Partners Academic Health Sciences Centre. We are working together to give our patients the best possible care, so you might find we invite you for appointments at Guy's or St Thomas' hospitals. King's College Hospital and Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trusts share an electronic patient record system, which means information about your health record can be accessed safely and securely by health and care staff at both Trusts. For more information visit [www.kch.nhs.uk](http://www.kch.nhs.uk).

## PALS

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) is a service that offers support, information and assistance to patients, relatives and visitors. They can also provide help and advice if you have a concern or complaint that staff have not been able to resolve for you. They can also pass on praise or thanks to our teams. The PALS office is located on the ground floor of the Hambleden Wing, near the main entrance on Bessemer Road - staff will be happy to direct you.

PALS at King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, London SE5 9RS

Tel: 020 3299 4618

Email: [kings.pals@nhs.net](mailto:kings.pals@nhs.net)

**If you would like the information in this leaflet in a different language or format, please contact our Interpreting and Accessible Communication Support on 020 3299 4618 or email [kings.access@nhs.net](mailto:kings.access@nhs.net)**