Intravenous (IV) sedation is used during some dental treatments. It is also an option for patients by request. This brochure explains details about sedation, how to prepare, and what to do after your treatment is done.
About Sedation
We offer these kinds of sedation:

- Nitrous oxide sedation, also called “laughing gas.”
- Conscious intravenous sedation.
- Deep intravenous sedation.

Your doctor will explain the advantages, disadvantages, and cost of each.

You will need to sign a consent form for the anesthesia and the dental work prior to any medications being given. If you are under 18 years of age, or are unable to sign this form, a legal guardian must sign for you. Signing the consent can be done prior to the visit or on the day of your visit.

To maintain your safety, we ask that you provide us with an accurate medical history and follow the instructions listed in the next section on the day of sedation.

Please note that payment for the anesthesia is due on the day of your appointment.

Before Intravenous Sedation

- Do not eat or drink (not even water) for at least 6 hours prior to your visit. If your appointment is in the morning, do not eat or drink after midnight. If it is in the afternoon, a light breakfast is recommended as long as it is more than 6 hours before your appointment.
- If your doctor has asked you to take any medications in that 6-hour time period, please do so with a small sip of water (just enough to get it down).
- Make plans to have someone drive you home and stay with you for at least the first 3 hours at home. Patients will not be allowed to drive a car or to use public transportation.
- Wear a short-sleeved, loose top. Wear comfortable flat shoes. Do not wear contact lenses.
- Do not wear jewelry.
- Use minimal make-up.
- Do not wear perfume or cologne.

- We may need to remove fingernail polish from one or more of your nails.
- If any changes in your general health occur prior to your scheduled appointment (such as fever, cough, or a cold), please call the clinic.

After Your Procedure

- Do not drive, sign important papers, drink alcohol, or operate complex machinery for 24 hours.
- You will receive a pamphlet about care after your intravenous sedation. Be sure to follow your doctor’s instructions about diet, rest, and medications.

We look forward to treating you! If you have any questions about your procedure or these instructions, please call 206-598-4277 for General Dentistry or 206-598-4279 for Oral Surgery.