

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Intravenous sedation and preparing for your procedure

Information for patients



Please ensure that you read this leaflet before you come to hospital for your operation

What is sedation?

Sedation is a way of using drugs (sedatives) to make you feel relaxed and sleepy during your procedure. We will give you your sedatives through an injection into a vein. Sedation is **not a general anaesthetic** and you will not be unconscious. You may not remember much of what happens during the procedure and directly afterwards. This is quite normal.

Local anaesthetic will be given once you have been sedated.

Do not drive, operate machinery or sign important documents for at least 24 hours after your procedure.

You must make sure that you have a responsible adult with you who can stay in the department for a couple of hours and take you home by car or taxi. Someone must also stay with you for at least 24 hours after your procedure.

Your procedure will be cancelled if you do not bring someone with you who can do this.

Preparation for your procedure and what to bring with you

- Patients having a procedure under sedation must follow the current fasting guidelines for general anaesthesia. You must not eat or drink for 6 hours before your procedure but you may have water up to 2 hours before. If you do eat or drink after these times your surgery will be cancelled.
- Avoid alcohol for 24 hours before your procedure.
- Bring with you a list of any medication or drugs you are taking.
- You may need to arrange to have a couple of days off work after your procedure.
- Remove all nail polish and false nails, and avoid wearing high heeled shoes as you may be unsteady on your feet afterwards.
- Please do not bring children with you.

Side-effects

You may feel sleepy and mildly un-coordinated (i.e. feel wobbly or unsteady when walking) for a few hours after you have had the sedation. We recommend that you go home and rest after your procedure.

Further information and how to contact us

If you have any questions or concerns about any of the information in this leaflet, please telephone Oral Surgery on:

Oxford (01865) 221407

or contact the John Radcliffe Hospital switchboard on 01865 741166 and ask for the oral surgeon on-call.

If you need an interpreter or need a document in another language, large print, Braille or audio version, please call **01865 221473**. When we receive your call we may transfer you to an interpreter. This can take some time, so please be patient.

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