

ADVANTAGES

of Choosing Sedation Dentistry





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The use of sedation dentistry has provided numerous individuals the opportunity to receive dental treatment in the absence of fear, anxiety, and pain. It is well-known that many people avoid visiting the dentist due to these factors. Available in varying levels, sedation dentistry can be administered to patients of all ages prior to and during dental procedures, improving dental experiences for all those who fear the dentist.

Receive Dental Treatment Without Fear and Anxiety

Though the number of dentists providing sedation options is increasing, not all offer these services within their practices. In fact, certain types of sedation require specialized training and certification. Oral sedation (typically a prescription sedative) can be administered by most dentists, but nitrous oxide and IV sedation (offered referred to as “sleep dentistry” because it produces a very drowsy feeling, though technically does not induce sleep) must be provided by dental professionals who are certified to do so. A person’s level of dental anxiety will often dictate the best choice of sedation for his or her specific needs.

No matter your personal reasons for choosing sedation dentistry, incorporating this option into your treatment plan can enhance your relationship with dentistry in a number of positive ways.

Sedation options may come in a variety of forms, but they all have a few things in common – namely the advantages they afford dental patients.



Improved Comfort and Elimination of Pain.

Though local anesthetics are still used to numb areas receiving treatment, the issue of pain is not a concern for individuals under sedation. Patients who receive sedation can completely relax and even enjoy a trip to the dentist, reversing the negative association of dental treatment with pain.



Condensed Number of Visits.

Because sedation calms a person to such a degree, a great amount of treatment can often be rendered in one visit. Many dentists and patients prefer to complete several procedures during one visit when sedation is used, minimizing the number of dental visits overall.



Reduced Healing Time.

When a number of procedures are completed in one visit, the total amount of time for healing from treatment is reduced. Patients therefore miss less time away from work and school.



Little to No Recollection of Procedure.

A significant benefit of sedation dentistry, especially for those whom past experiences were traumatic, little to no recollection of the procedure can be a huge factor in choosing sedation for treatment. Though patients are awake and can respond to instructions from the dental staff, most do not remember much about the procedure in general.



Positive Dental Experiences.

With sedation dentistry comes the creation of positive dental experiences for those who suffer from fear and anxiety. One experience builds upon the next, leaving a lasting impression for future treatment to come.



Improved Efficiency of Procedure.

When a patient is calm and relaxed during a procedure, the dentist and staff typically can be more efficient at providing treatment. Tense jaw muscles and stress on the part of the patient can often make accessing certain areas within the mouth more difficult. Sedation eliminates these concerns, allowing for a more pleasant, efficient experience for all.