

## About Our Office

Our exceptional staff specializes in endodontics (root canal therapy of all phases) and dental implantology (replacement of missing and/or diseased teeth). Our primary objective is to always try to maintain the natural dentition by using various endodontic techniques to do so. If this is not possible then we can restore your mouth to a fully healthy, functional state with the use of dental implants. As the doctors and former patients that refer you to our office know, it is our philosophy to focus on our specialty level procedures and to do them well while having your best interest in mind.



## Member of



California State Dental Board  
Permitted and Inspected Facility

*This brochure will address the most commonly asked questions regarding sedation and anesthesia. Decisions concerning which type of sedation or anesthesia will be determined by you in consultation with your endodontist.*



**ENDODONTIC AND  
IMPLANTOLOGY  
ASSOCIATES**

## Sedation

*Options for the Comfort  
of Our Patients*



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## Apprehension of Dental Treatment

It is common and perfectly normal to have some degree of apprehension or anxiety prior to receiving dental treatment. Some people however, have stronger feelings in this regard than others. These feelings may have been produced by a less than pleasant past experience, stories told by family or friends, or by the nature of the dental procedure itself. Many apprehensive patients avoid dental care for many years until their problems become so severe that they are forced to seek emergency care. Patients who come into our caring office are put at ease the moment they enter the office as they are greeted by a friendly, welcoming staff that understands anxiety related to dental procedures. All procedures are discussed in detail with the patient prior to the actual treatment so that any concerns could be addressed including the need for and type of sedation you may need.

## What Is Sedation?

Sedation can make practically all dental and oral surgical procedures more pleasant and safer for the apprehensive patient. During the procedure, administering sedative medications can control the anxiety that many people have. A sedated patient will not only be more relaxed but may also have limited memory of the procedure performed.

## How Is The Medication Administered?

Sedative medications can be administered by breathing (nitrous oxide – laughing gas), orally (in liquid or pill form) or intravenously (IV). Nitrous oxide is the most common agent used to treat apprehensive patients and can be used either by itself or in combination with other medications. Oral medication allows the patient to take a sedative before the procedure, in the office, and eliminates the need for an IV. However, oral medication takes time to work and has limits on how sedated you can safely become. Medication given intravenously (IV) has its effect rapidly so your specialist can give the precise amount needed for your level of anxiety. In addition, if more medication is needed during the procedure, the IV allows easy administration of additional medications. The route selected will be discussed between you and your specialist. This route will depend on your current health status and your particular needs.



## How Am I Monitored During The Procedure?

Depending on the depth of the sedation being used, as well as your own medical condition, various monitors will be used during your procedure to ensure your safety. These monitors may include blood pressure, heart, and respiratory monitors. In addition to the monitoring procedures, your doctor along with his/her trained staff will always be with you and will be observing you closely during your treatment and recovery.

## Is Sedation Safe?

The use of sedation in dentistry has a commendable record of safety. This is due to the additional advanced training your doctor and staff have committed for your overall health and safety. It is important to advise your doctor of all medications that you take as well as any changes in your health since your last visit. In addition, a special permit is required to administer sedation. In order to qualify your doctor has provided evidence of advanced training in sedation to the dental board of examiners. The ability to handle emergency situations as well as having specific emergency medications and equipment is a mandatory part of the permitting process. Rest assured that our facility is equipped for your utmost safety and the staff trained accordingly.