

Why might sedation be right for me?

Many dental patients approach the dental office with anxiety. The reasons are valid and often, totally out of their control. Some people are anxious because of past experiences, for others it can be the lack of control, the noises, the feelings, or the anticipation of the discomfort. At Parker Dentistry, we fully understand this anxiety. Our goal is to change the way our patients think about their dental health and their dental experience. We want you to be comfortable during your time with us, so you can have confidence that your teeth can be healthy, stable, and can last you a lifetime. We also want you to feel you are visiting friends or family when coming to Parker Dentistry.

Sedation is a great option for many people and is available for most procedures, including cleanings, and the times when you may need more extensive dental work. Our safe sedation options can help get you through necessary steps to achieving a healthy mouth so you can enjoy doing the things in life that bring you joy!

Sedation creates a safer environment for many patients. Lower blood pressure and a relaxed jaw, which are often results of sedation, can allow for a more comfortable dental procedure and a better overall experience. If you decide that sedation is right for you, we can work together to determine which type is best and set you on a path toward a safe, comfortable visit.

What types of sedation are available?

There are three types of sedation available in our office. The first is nitrous oxide or “laughing gas.” This results in a very light level of sedation, which involves the patient inhaling a mixture of oxygen and nitrous oxide through a mask. It is extremely safe and causes no known allergies. Shortly after breathing this air, many patients feel less anxiety and an ability to handle dental procedures with which they would normally struggle. After the procedure, and within a couple of minutes of breathing pure oxygen, the effects are gone and the patient is free to drive home and return to normal activities.

The second type of sedation is “Oral Conscious Sedation.” This is a higher form of sedation. It involves taking different medications prior to the appointment and during the procedure, which creates an experience of sleepiness and apathy. While the patient is aware of what is going on and able to follow instructions, they are drowsy and often fall asleep during the procedure. This sedation requires a driver and monitored supervision after the visit. This is our most common and preferred method of sedation.

The final type of sedation available is “General Anesthesia.” This is administered only with an anesthesia specialist in the room and, this is a much more involved sedation option that results in the patient becoming deeply asleep, or unconscious, during the procedure. This type of sedation is used for medical surgeries and most wisdom tooth extractions in an oral surgeon’s office.

What is my next step?

All visits to Parker Dentistry start with a conversation about your needs, as we build a trusting relationship with each other. We rarely poke or prod the first visit. This is to get to know your history and concerns first and foremost. We are extremely open, honest, and happy to spend time to answer all of your questions and concerns. At Parker Dentistry, it is my commitment that we are on your side and you will never be lectured, guilt-tripped, or pressured to do anything. We are here to help you achieve your desires and live the life you want to. Give us a call at 949-429-0049 to schedule your initial consultation with me and my patient concierge. You will be glad you did! I look forward to getting to know you! Feel free to reach out to me via email at: Lincoln@DrLincolnParker.com