

# Sedation Dentistry

## **What is sedation dentistry?**

Sedative is a drug that reduces irritability or excitement & allays anxiety thereby calming & relaxing a person. It has several benefits

- It produces amnesia.
- Enhances patient co-operation.
- It enhances the effectiveness of local anesthetic.
- It decreases gagging.
- It allays anxiety.

## **How is the medicine delivered?**

The drug may be taken orally in the form of a small pill taken an hour before the procedure or in other cases the medicine is delivered via an IV to produce a deeper sedation.

## **Am I Really Asleep?**

Sedation is sometimes called “sleep dentistry” because some patients actually fall asleep. However, you still breathe on your own, your reflexes are still intact and you can still respond to verbal commands.

## **What else do I need to know?**

Depending on the type of sedation, the effects will last anywhere from 30 minutes to 4 hours. You will need to bring a driver to take you home.