



PRE-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR DENTAL SURGERY UNDER GENERAL ANESTHESIA

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Your child is scheduled to undergo dental treatment under general anesthesia. Please carefully read and follow these instructions to ensure a safe and successful procedure.

Reminder: Dental treatment done under general anesthesia is the same as any other surgery done in a hospital. As such, parents will NOT be permitted in the operating room before or during treatment. Very rare exceptions are made for children with special needs.

1. Arrival and Scheduling

- **Complete all patient forms** prior to your child's surgery day. If you are running late, please call the office to let us know.
- Allow a full day for the appointment; plan to miss school the day of surgery and no daycare after. If your child goes to school, the surgery will be cancelled.

2. Eating & Drinking Guidelines

- To reduce the risk of vomiting and aspiration during anesthesia, **DO NOT** eat or drink anything after **MIDNIGHT** the night before your surgery unless otherwise instructed by the anesthesiologist.
- **DO NOT** give milk, formula, or any food (including gum, candy, or breast milk) after the fasting cut-off times.
- If your child eats or drinks after the allowed time, **the surgery will be cancelled.**
- We will call you 2 days before your surgery to instruct you on what time to stop eating and drinking. We **must** be able to reach you prior to your surgery, otherwise, your surgery will be cancelled.

3. Medications

- Continue **daily medications** unless instructed otherwise by the doctor or anesthesiologist. Medications should be taken first thing in the morning with only a small sip of water.
- If your child has asthma, please give breathing/nebulizer treatment at bedtime on the day before the procedure and 1 hour before your appointment. Please bring the asthma medication with you on the day of your surgery.

4. Clothing & Personal Items

- Dress your child in **loose, comfortable clothing** with short sleeves.
- Please bring an **extra set of clothes** as general anesthesia can sometimes cause children to wet themselves if there is urine in their bladder.
- Bring a **blanket, favorite toy or comfort item** if desired.

5. Illness or Health Changes


Contact our office immediately if your child develops:

- **Fever**
- **Cough, cold, or congestion**
- **Rash or signs of infection**
- **Exposure to COVID-19, flu, or other contagious illness**


DO NOT bring your child in for surgery if they are sick. It may be unsafe to proceed.

 6. Parental Presence

- A **parent or legal guardian must remain on site** throughout the entire procedure. Be prepared to be at the office for 2-4 hours as surgery is unpredictable and can run longer than expected.
 - Legal guardians must submit **proof of guardianship or custody documentation** prior to the appointment day.
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 7. Transportation

- Your child **will not be allowed to leave alone or by public transportation.**
 - A responsible adult must drive your child home and monitor them closely for the next **24 hours.**
 - All children should be in a car seat or if old enough should wear a seatbelt and be sitting in an upright position on their way home.
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 8. Questions or Cancellations

- If you have any questions, or need to reschedule, please call us at: **(408) 708-7315**
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Your child's safety is our top priority. Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Snug Dental Center

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