



ORAL & MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY

Patient Information – Ambulatory Anesthesia

This information is provided to ensure a smooth and favorable experience for you and your family.

Your Obligations:

Because anesthetic medications cause prolonged drowsiness, you **MUST** be accompanied by a responsible adult to drive you home and stay with you until you are sufficiently recovered to care for yourself. This may be up to 24 hours. Children must be accompanied by a parent of legal guardian.

During recovery time (24 hours) and if taking narcotic pain medications after surgery, you **may not** drive, operate complicated machinery or devices, or make important decisions such as signing documents, etc...

Oral Intake Instructions Prior to Surgery:

Teenagers & Adults:

- **No solids or liquids after midnight** or for at least six hours prior to elective surgery.
- It is important that you take any regular medication (high blood pressure, antibiotic, etc.) or any medications provided and recommended by this office. Prescribed medications are to be taken with a small sip of water only and at the usual time as instructed preoperatively.
- Children 0-12 years should have clear fluids. (i.e., water, fruit juice without pulp, carbonated beverages, clear tea and black coffee) up to 2 hours before surgery. The amount of clear fluid should not exceed eight ounces.

Risks of Anesthesia

Well monitored anesthesia is very safe, comfortable and well tolerated.

Risks of anesthesia include but are not limited to bruising and infection at the IV site, and allergic reactions. There may be inflammation at the site of an intravenous (IV) injection (phlebitis) which may prolong discomfort and/or disability and may require special care. Nausea and vomiting, although very uncommon, may be unfortunate side effects of IV anesthesia. Intravenous anesthesia is a serious medical procedure and, although considered very safe, does carry with it the risk of heart irregularities, heart attack, stroke, brain damage and death.

Special Note

For at least one week before surgery, it is important to avoid aspirin or aspirin-like products (e.g., ibuprofen, Motrin, Advil) as these medications may increase bleeding at the time of operation. Ask us about other medications that you may be taking. All of this is to ensure your safety.

Ideally, smoking should be avoided for 6-8 weeks prior to anesthetic or surgical procedure. Smoking delays healing; may promote “dry sockets” (if you are having dental extractions) and makes your airway more “reactive” increasing risk during anesthesia.

Relax!!! We understand your natural fears and will make every attempt to provide you with a pleasant experience. Please feel free to call us with any questions or concerns.