



Office Policy Regarding Patient Treatment

Our goal in treating your child is to provide the highest quality of care utilizing the most up to date techniques and materials in a safe, friendly environment by our experienced, caring and well-trained staff. It is also our goal to prevent decay and to have all patients “cavity free”. The following are our guidelines for treatment. If you have any questions or concerns regarding these guidelines, please feel free to ask one of our dentist or staff members anytime for clarification.

Treatment

We will treat your child the same way we would treat one of our children. We provide dental care in an honest, sincere fashion without sedation or general anesthesia. With very few exceptions, most children’s dental treatment can be performed in the dental office with local anesthesia, nitrous oxide and various patient management techniques (described on the back of this form). We feel these are the safest and most effective approaches to treating your child.

Since many adults have a fear of dentistry, they wait until they have serious problems to seek treatment. Most of the treatment we perform on children, such as sealants and small fillings are to prevent these more serious problems. Our goal is to reinforce to our patients that dentistry is a health care service that can provide a lifetime of healthy teeth and gums and that visiting the dentist can be a positive experience. Our job is to educate your child about dentistry and to establish trust and confidence in your child.

Since every child is unique and handles new situations differently, it is necessary to have your child’s undivided attention. Therefore, we suggest parents wait in the reception room during treatment appointments. This allows the dentist to establish a direct and close rapport with your child. When a parent is in the room, your child’s attention is divided, and it is difficult to gain his/her confidence. However, if you feel a strong desire to accompany your child, or if the dentist sees a need for your presence in the treatment room that can be arranged. It’s not our intent to keep you out of the treatment area during your child’s visit we only want what’s best for your child and to offer him/her the most pleasant experience possible.

One of our staff members will come out to the reception area and accompany your child to the treatment room. The staff member will stay with your child during treatment and accompany him/her back to the reception room after treatment is completed. While you may feel it is a comfort for your child “to walk them back to the room”, we have found this to be a greater problem for your child because you are “leaving them”. If your child knows you are “waiting for them out front” and that they will join you at the end of their treatment, then you have not “left” or “gone away”.

I, (parent/guardian) of _____ acknowledge that I have read and understand the above policy. I have reviewed the “Pediatric Dentistry Patient Management Techniques” on the reverse side of this form and give consent for their use. All of my questions have been answered to my satisfaction.

Signature Parent/Guardian

Relationship to patient

Date



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Pediatric Dentistry Patient Management Techniques

At Just Kids Dental, it is our intent that all professional care delivered in our dental operations shall be of the best possible quality we can provide for each child. Providing high quality care can sometimes be made very difficult, or even impossible, because of lack of cooperation by some child patients. Among the behaviors that can interfere with the proper provision of quality dental care are: hyperactivity, resistive movements, refusing to open mouth or keep mouth open long enough to perform the necessary dental treatment, and even aggressive and/or physical resistance to treatment, such as kicking, screaming, and grabbing at the dentist hand or sharp dental instruments.

All efforts will be made to obtain the cooperation of the child dental patients by the use of warmth, friendliness, persuasion, humor, charm, gentleness, kindness, and understanding.

The following methods may be used to encourage your child to cooperate:

1. **Tell-Show-Do:** The dentist or assistant explains to the child what is to be done using simple terminology and repetition and then shows the child what is to be done by demonstrating with instruments on a model or the child or dentist's finger. Then the procedure is performed in the child's mouth as described. Praise is used to reinforce cooperative behavior.
2. **Positive Reinforcement:** This technique rewards the child, who displays any behavior, which is desirable. Rewards include compliments, praise, a pat on the back, a hug, or a prize.
3. **Voice Control:** The attention of disruptive patients is gained by changing the tone and/or the increasing volume of the dentist's voice. Content of the conversation is less important than abrupt or sudden nature of the command.
4. **Mouth Props:** A rubber or plastic device is placed in the child's mouth to prevent closing when a child refuses or has trouble maintaining an open mouth.
5. **Physical Restraint by the Dentist:** The dentist restrains the child from movement by holding down the child's hands or upper body, stabilizing the child's head between the dentist arm and body, or positioning the child firmly in the dental chair.
6. **Physical Restraint by the Assistant:** The assistant restrains the child from movement by holding down the child's hands, stabilizing the head, and/or controlling leg movements.
7. **Nitrous Oxide:** Nitrous Oxide may be provided for your child. The patient does not become unconscious.

All of our techniques and training adhere to the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry guidelines for patient care.

Note: If you do not agree with the above methods listed, please let us know so that we may talk to you about them. However, please understand that it may not be possible to complete any or all of your child's required dental work due to the safety hazard created by uncooperative behavior.