



## NITROUS OXIDE ANALGESIA INFORMATION AND CONSENT

Your child's response to the dental experience is of primary importance to us. Nitrous oxide or "laughing gas" is an analgesic and mild sedative used by most pediatric dentists. It is a very safe gas/oxygen mixture that is inhaled by a nasal mask and takes effect after 5-10 minutes. Nitrous oxide in the dental office is never used as a general anesthetic; it does not put a child "to sleep". For this reason local anesthetic is still necessary, but much more comfortable to receive.

Nitrous oxide reduces fear, anxiety, apprehension and pain sensation, the use of nitrous oxide can help many children learn to cope with the sometimes stressful dental experience. Since nitrous oxide generally reduces fatigue and provides a pleasant sensation, it enables children to remain relaxed for their dental treatment.

Possible other sensations your child may experience: relaxation; increased pain tolerance, altered perception of time; tingling sensation, especially in the fingers and toes; giddiness and lightheadedness. Many children are withdrawn after nitrous oxide sedation. They may appear sleepy and unresponsive. This is a natural reaction, much like waking from a nap. Rarely, side effects are nausea and/or vomiting.

I have read and understand the above and have no questions or concerns. Therefore, I give my informed consent to the administration of nitrous oxide sedation on behalf of my minor child in my custody.

Patient Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Parent/Guardian Signature</u>	<u>Relationship</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Witness</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
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