

## PATIENT MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES

Please read carefully and ask about anything on this form. We will be happy to explain further.

It is our intent that our dental care deliver be the best possible quality. But providing high quality dental care to children can be difficult due to their behavior.

Every effort will be made to obtain your child's cooperation through warmth, charm, humor and understanding. When these fail, there are several behavioral management techniques used to eliminate or minimize disruptive behavior. These are routinely used and accepted by the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and are described below.

1. **Tell-show-do:** The dentist or assistant explains to the child what is to be done by demonstrating on a model or on the child's finger. Then the procedure is done on the patient's tooth. Praise is used to reinforce cooperative behavior.
2. **Positive reinforcement:** This technique rewards the child who displays desirable behavior. Rewards include compliments, praise, a pat on the arm or a prize.
3. **Voice control:** The attention of a disruptive child is gained by changing the tone or increasing the volume of the practitioner's voice.
4. **Mouth props:** A rubber device is gently placed in the child's mouth to prevent either intentional or unintentional closure on the dentist's fingers or drill.
5. **Physical restraint by dentist/assistant:** The child is held so they can not grab a moving drill or other sharp object. They are not able to grab the practitioner's hand while delicate work is being performed. This is for the safety of the child and to facilitate treatment.
6. **Laughing gas:** Nitrous oxide (laughing gas) is administered to calm and soothe the patient prior to a stressful procedure. Nitrous oxide is a very safe medication that very rarely does cause some nausea. The patient is always awake and never loses consciousness.
7. **Papoose board:** This is a restraining device to limit the patient's disruptive movements and prevent injury. It is used only as a last resort when treatment can be accomplished in no other way. This will never be used without **FIRST** informing the parent.

The listed behavior management techniques have been explained to me. I understand their use and the risks/benefits/alternatives available. I have had all my questions answered and I realize I can always seek further information or revoke permission for any of these techniques.

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parent /guardian

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date

**Office Policy:** I understand that I may be assessed missed appointment fees OR my association with this office may be terminated if I arrive late (more than 15 minutes), cancel on short notice (less than 24 hours), or fail to show for scheduled appointments.

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parent/guardian

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date