

# PEDIATRIC INFORMED CONSENT

## PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY INFORMED CONSENT FOR PATIENT MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES

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

It is our intent that our dental care delivery be the best quality available. We are highly experienced in helping children overcome anxiety and we ask that you allow your child to accompany our staff through the dental experience. Separation anxiety is not uncommon in children, so please try not to be concerned if your child exhibits some negative behavior; this is normal and will soon diminish. Studies and experience have shown that most children over the age of 3 react more positively when permitted to experience the dental visit on their own in an environment designed for children.

Every effort will be made to obtain your child's cooperation through warmth, charm, humor and understanding. When these fail there are several behavior management techniques our office uses to eliminate or minimize disruptive behavior. The techniques used are 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 any desirable behavior. Rewards include compliments, praise, and 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 **Hand and/or head holding by dentist or assistant:** An adult keeps the child's body still so the child cannot grab the dentist's hand or sharp dental tools.

## THE FOLLOWING WILL BE USED AFTER OBTAINING CONSENT FROM THE PARENT /GUARDIAN

- 1 **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 rarely causes nausea. The patient is *always* awake and *never* loses consciousness.
- 2 **Stabilization wrap:** A body wrap made of fabric mesh and Velcro that is placed around the child to limit movement. It is never used without consent of the parent.

The listed pediatric dentistry 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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent / Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth