

Milestone Dental Clinic

Information Sheet for Use of Sedation and/or Medical Immobilization to provide Clinical Dental Treatment and Consequences/Risks of No Dental Treatment

Untreated dental disease leads to pain, infection, loss of teeth and loss of function. Since dental treatment requires the placement of surgical instruments in immediate proximity to delicate human tissues, stable patient positioning is of ultimate concern in order to avoid injury to oral-facial tissues.

In providing for each patient's right to safe care, it may be necessary to employ various techniques, including stabilizing immobilization, preoperative sedation and/or muscle relaxing medications in an attempt to prevent self injury through rapid body movements or the grasping of dental instruments.

Milestone Dental Clinic will adhere to the following principals for provision of safe care:

The least restrictive alternative, which assures safety, shall be chosen by the dental professional as the means of providing treatment. Professional judgment may dictate the use of varied alternatives for the same individual in relation to the demands of the specific proposed treatment (simple exam versus surgical procedure).

The use of sedation or physical stabilizing devices is never used to supplement appropriate pain control or local anesthesia of oral tissues.

Physical immobilization or chemical restraint is not used for the convenience of the dental staff or as punishment for an uncooperative patient.

Any immobilization used must be of humane design and cause no physical injury and present the least physical discomfort for the patient.

The foreseeable risks of physical and chemical stabilization may include: 1) increased anxiety 2) prolonged drowsiness 3) minor physical discomfort. Many patients can be treated in a normal fashion, with no need for any adjustments. Comprehensive dental care for others may not be possible without the use of the adaptations discussed. For other patients, more restrictive alternatives, such as deep sedation or general anesthesia might be necessary to gain care. If this type of sedation is necessary, all involved parties will be contacted to discuss options.

If you have any questions please contact:

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