

## PARENTAL CONSENT FOR BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT

Children are often nervous or scared when experiencing something new. Our goal as trained pediatric specialists is to make your child's visit as comfortable as possible. We start with "**baby steps**" to help your child learn how to overcome any fears of going to the dentist. We explain every step in "**kid friendly**" language and most children begin to understand after their first visit, that visiting the dentist can be **FUN**. Our caring, understanding, humor and fun approaches can be used to eliminate and minimize fearful/avoidance behavior. Some children need a little bit more help to overcome their fear of the dentist. We used scientifically proven and approved techniques by the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, which include:

- (1) Tell Show Do: the dentist or staff tells the child what is to be done, shows an example on a tooth model or on the child's finger, then the procedure is done on the child's tooth
- (2) Positive Reinforcement: rewards a child who displays cooperative behavior with compliments, praise, encouragement, or a small prize/token
- (3) Voice Control: a change in the tone and volume or the dentist's voice to gain the attention of an uncooperative child to help them modify their behavior
- (4) Non-verbal Communication: reinforce a desired by facial expression and posture/body language
- (5) Distraction: diverting patient's attention from what may be perceived as an unpleasant procedure
- (6) Solo Communication/ Parental Absence: parent may be asked to be a silent observer in the room, or even asked to step out of the room; the objective is to gain the child's attention, establish communication, and avoid negative behavior. Parents can always verify their child's safety, by observing near the doorway, without the patient viewing their presence
- (7) Mouth Prop: a soft rubber device placed in your child's mouth to prevent accidental closure during treatment
- (8) Hand/Head Holding: an adult assists child's body to remain still so child cannot grab the dentist's/hygienist's hand or sharp tools
- (9) Nitrous Oxide (Laughing Gas): a safe and effective inhalation technique that can be used to help reduce anxiety, help decrease pain and reduce a child's gag reflex. It allows the child to relax without being asleep. It is completely safe and is eliminated from the body within 5 minutes
- (10) Protective Stabilization/Wrap (Papoose): on rare occasions, this fabric mesh wrap with velcro is used to limit potentially injurious movements. This technique is first discussed with parent, at the point when every effort has been utilized to complete treatment and verbal consent is obtained.
- (11) Sedation/General Anesthesia: for some children with medical complications or in instances where other behavior modification techniques are ineffective; a child's dental treatment can be accomplished under general anesthesia. Additional information will be provided to parents if this is recommended for your child.

I hereby acknowledge that I have read and understand this consent form, and this consent shall remain in effect for my child/children until I choose to terminate it and I will give written notification to reverse this document.

PATIENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Patient: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (Parent/Guardian): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_