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Post-Operative Instructions for *General Anesthesia*

General anesthesia was just administered to your child during his/her dental treatment appointment. He/she will slowly wake up as the sedatives are metabolized and wear off.

As we dismiss him/her to your care, we request that you please follow these instructions:

1. **Avoid** giving your child a heavy meal for **at least 2 hours** after his/her appointment. If your child is hungry, a **light, soft and easily digestible meal** with clear liquids is recommended to reduce the risk of any nausea or vomiting.
2. Your child will **not** be able to attend school today.
3. Observe your child's behavior for the next **4-6 hours** as the sedatives wear off:
 - a. Although the sedatives will leave the body slowly, residual effects of **drowsiness, exhaustion and fatigue** can remain in children.
 - b. If your child desires to nap, please have him/her sleep **only** on his/her **side** and on the floor unless he/she is supervised the entire time – then either the bed or sofa is appropriate. It is important to ensure your child's **airway stays open** as the sedatives wear off. **Wake him/her up every hour to drink something, to prevent dehydration.**
 - c. **Prevent** your child from engaging in any physical activity that requires **balance** (i.e. swimming, riding a bicycle, etc.) as your child may experience some dizziness from the sedatives.
 - d. Your child may develop an elevated temperature following treatment, which is common. It is the body's response to physical stress. Over the counter pain medicine (i.e. Tylenol or Motrin) may be given at the appropriate dose to help reduce the temperature.
 - e. If your child begins to experience **any respiratory issues or distress**, please dial 911 **immediately** for help and follow up with the office so that Dr. Takiar may meet you at the hospital if required.
4. After **2 hours** and throughout the remainder of the day, please ensure that your child has a good meal and continues to drink fluids.
 - a. If your child vomits, turn him/her to the side to prevent aspiration. **Wait for 30-60 minutes** and then gradually resume clear fluids in sips. Only begin solid foods once your child can tolerate liquids.

If you have any questions/concerns, please call the office at **571-799-0559** or Dr. Ali.

