Appendix 8

American Dental Association
Guidelines for the use of Sedation and General Anesthesia by Dentists

American Dental Association
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GUIDELINES

for the Use of Sedation and General Anesthesia by Dentists

As adopted by the October 2007 ADA House of Delegates

I. INTRODUCTION

The administration of local anesthesia, sedation and general anesthesia is an integral part of dental practice. The American Dental Association is committed to the safe and effective use of these modalities by appropriately educated and trained dentists. The purpose of these guidelines is to assist dentists in the delivery of safe and effective sedation and anesthesia.

Dentists providing sedation and anesthesia in compliance with their state rules and/or regulations prior to adoption of this document are not subject to *Section III. Educational Requirements.*

II. DEFINITIONS

Methods of Anxiety and Pain Control

analgesia – the diminution or elimination of pain.

local anesthesia – the elimination of sensation, especially pain, in one part of the body by the topical application or regional injection of a drug.

> *Note:* Although the use of local anesthetics is the foundation of pain control in dentistry and has a long record of safety, dentists must be aware of the maximum, safe dosage limits for each patient. Large doses of local anesthetics in themselves may result in central nervous system depression, especially in combination with sedative agents.

minimal sedation – a minimally depressed level of consciousness, produced by a pharmacological method, that retains the patient's ability to independently and continuously maintain an airway and respond *normally* to tactile stimulation and verbal command. Although cognitive function and coordination may be modestly impaired, ventilatory and cardiovascular functions are unaffected.[1]

> *Note:* In accord with this particular definition, the drug(s) and/or techniques used should carry a margin of safety wide enough never to render unintended loss of consciousness. Further, patients whose only response is reflex withdrawal from repeated painful stimuli would not be considered to be in a state of minimal sedation.

> **When the intent is minimal sedation for adults, the appropriate initial dosing of a single enteral drug is no more than the maximum recommended dose (MRD) of a drug that can be prescribed for unmonitored home use.**

> **The use of preoperative sedatives for children (aged 12 and under) except in extraordinary situations must be avoided due to the risk of unobserved respiratory obstruction during transport by untrained individuals.**

> **Children (aged 12 and under) can become moderately sedated despite the intended level of minimal sedation; should this occur, the guidelines for moderate sedation apply.**

> **For children 12 years of age and under, the American Dental Association supports the use of the American Academy of Pediatrics/American Academy of Pediatric Dentists *Guidelines for Monitoring and Management of Pediatric Patients During and After Sedation for Diagnostic and Therapeutic Procedures*.**

> Nitrous oxide/oxygen may be used in combination with a single enteral drug in minimal sedation.

> **Nitrous oxide/oxygen when used in combination with sedative agent(s) may produce minimal, moderate, deep sedation or general anesthesia.**

[1] Portions excerpted from *Continuum of Depth of Sedation: Definition of General Anesthesia and Levels of Sedation/Analgesia*, 2004, of the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA). A copy of the full text can be obtained from ASA, 520 N. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge, IL 60068-2573.

The following definitions apply to administration of minimal sedation:

maximum recommended (MRD) – maximum FDA-recommended dose of a drug, as printed in FDA-approved labeling for unmonitored home use.

incremental dosing – administration of multiple doses of a drug until a desired effect is reached, but not to exceed the maximum recommended dose (MRD).

supplemental dosing - during minimal sedation, supplemental dosing is a single additional dose of the initial dose of the initial drug that may be necessary for prolonged procedures. The supplemental dose should not exceed one-half of the initial dose and should not be administered until the dentist has determined the clinical half-life of the initial dosing has passed. The total aggregate dose must not exceed 1.5x the MRD on the day of treatment.

moderate sedation – a drug-induced depression of consciousness during which patients respond *purposefully* to verbal commands, either alone or accompanied by light tactile stimulation. No interventions are required to maintain a patent airway, and spontaneous ventilation is adequate. Cardiovascular function is usually maintained.[2]

Note: In accord with this particular definition, the drugs and/or techniques used should carry a margin of safety wide enough to render unintended loss of consciousness unlikely. Repeated dosing of an agent before the effects of previous dosing can be fully appreciated may result in a greater alteration of the state of consciousness than is the intent of the dentist. Further, a patient whose only response is reflex withdrawal from a painful stimulus is not considered to be in a state of moderate sedation.

The following definition applies to the administration of moderate or greater sedation:

titration – administration of incremental doses of a drug until a desired effect is reached. Knowledge of each drug's time of onset, peak response and duration of action is essential to avoid over sedation. Although the concept of titration of a drug to effect is critical for patient safety, when the intent is moderate sedation one must know whether the previous dose has taken full effect before administering an additional drug increment.

deep sedation – a drug-induced depression of consciousness during which patients cannot be easily aroused but respond purposefully following repeated or painful stimulation. The ability to independently maintain ventilatory function may be impaired. Patients may require assistance in maintaining a patent airway, and spontaneous ventilation may be inadequate. Cardiovascular function is usually maintained.[2]

general anesthesia – a drug-induced loss of consciousness during which patients are not arousable, even by painful stimulation. The ability to independently maintain ventilatory function is often impaired. Patients often require assistance in maintaining a patent airway, and positive pressure ventilation may be required because of depressed spontaneous ventilation or drug-induced depression of neuromuscular function. Cardiovascular function may be impaired.

Because sedation and general anesthesia are a continuum, it is not always possible to predict how an individual patient will respond. Hence, practitioners intending to produce a given level of sedation should be able to diagnose and manage the physiologic consequences (rescue) for patients whose level of sedation becomes deeper than initially intended.[2]

[2] Excerpted from *Continuum of Depth of Sedation: Definition of General Anesthesia and Levels of Sedation/Analgesia,* 2004, of the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA). A copy of the full text can be obtained from ASA, 520 N. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge, IL 60068-2573.

For all levels of sedation, the practitioner must have the training, skills, drugs and equipment to identify and manage such an occurrence until either assistance arrives (emergency medical service) or the patient returns to the intended level of sedation without airway or cardiovascular complications.

Routes of Administration

enteral – any technique of administration in which the agent is absorbed through the gastrointestinal (GI) tract or oral mucosa [i.e., oral, rectal, sublingual].

parenteral – a technique of administration in which the drug bypasses the gastrointestinal (GI) tract [i.e., intramuscular (IM), intravenous (IV), intranasal (IN), submucosal (SM), subcutaneous (SC), intraosseous (IO)].

transdermal – a technique of administration in which the drug is administered by patch or iontophoresis through skin.

transmucosal – a technique of administration in which the drug is administered across mucosa such as intranasal, sublingual, or rectal.

inhalation – a technique of administration in which a gaseous or volatile agent is introduced into the lungs and whose primary effect is due to absorption through the gas/blood interface.

Terms

qualified dentist – meets the educational requirements for the appropriate level of sedation in accordance with Section III of these *Guidelines,* or a dentist providing sedation and anesthesia in compliance with their state rules and/or regulations prior to adoption of this document.

must/shall – indicates an imperative need and/or duty; an essential or indispensable item; mandatory.

should – indicates the recommended manner to obtain the standard; highly desirable.

may – indicates freedom or liberty to follow a reasonable alternative.

continual – repeated regularly and frequently in a steady succession.

continuous – prolonged without any interruption at any time.

time-oriented anesthesia record – documentation at appropriate time intervals of drugs, doses and physiologic data obtained during patient monitoring.

immediately available – on site in the facility and available for immediate use.

American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) Patient Physical Status Classification[3]

ASA I – A normal healthy patient.

ASA II – A patient with mild systemic disease.

ASA III – A patient with severe systemic disease.

ASA IV – A patient with severe systemic disease that is a constant threat to life.

ASA V – A moribund patient who is not expected to survive without the operation.

ASA VI – A declared brain-dead patient whose organs are being removed for donor purposes.

E – Emergency operation of any variety (used to modify one of the above classifications, i.e., ASA III-E).

[3] ASA Physical Status Classification System is reprinted with permission of the American Society of Anesthesiologists, 520 N. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge, IL 60068-2573.

III. EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

A. Minimal Sedation

1. To administer minimal sedation the dentist must have successfully completed:

   a. training to the level of competency in minimal sedation consistent with that prescribed in the ADA *Guidelines for Teaching Pain Control and Sedation to Dentists and Dental Students*, or a comprehensive training program in moderate sedation that satisfies the requirements described in the Moderate Sedation section of the *ADA Guidelines for Teaching Pain Control and Sedation to Dentists and Dental Students* at the time training was commenced,

   or

   b. an advanced education program accredited by the ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation that affords comprehensive and appropriate training necessary to administer and manage minimal sedation commensurate with these guidelines;

   and

   c. a current certification in Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers.

2. Administration of minimal sedation by another qualified dentist or independently practicing qualified anesthesia healthcare provider requires the operating dentist and his/her clinical staff to maintain current certification in Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers.

B. Moderate Sedation

1. To administer moderate sedation, the dentist must have successfully completed:

   a. a comprehensive training program in moderate sedation that satisfies the requirements described in the Moderate Sedation section of the ADA *Guidelines for Teaching Pain Control and Sedation to Dentists and Dental Students* at the time training was commenced,

   or

   b. an advanced education program accredited by the ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation that affords comprehensive and appropriate training necessary to administer and manage moderate sedation commensurate with these guidelines;

   and

   c. a current certification in 1) Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers and 2) Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) or an appropriate dental sedation/anesthesia emergency management course.

2. Administration of moderate sedation by another qualified dentist or independently practicing qualified anesthesia healthcare provider requires the operating dentist and his/her clinical staff to maintain current certification in Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers.

C. Deep Sedation or General Anesthesia

1. To administer deep sedation or general anesthesia, the dentist must have completed:

   a. an advanced education program accredited by the ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation that affords comprehensive and appropriate training necessary to administer and manage deep sedation or general anesthesia, commensurate with Part IV.C of these guidelines;

   and

b. a current certification in 1) Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers and 2) Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) or an appropriate dental sedation/anesthesia emergency management course.

2. Administration of deep sedation or general anesthesia by another qualified dentist or independently practicing qualified anesthesia healthcare provider requires the operating dentist and his/her clinical staff to maintain current certification in Basic Life Support (BLS) Course for the Healthcare Provider.

For all levels of sedation and anesthesia, dentists, who are currently providing sedation and anesthesia in compliance with their state rules and/or regulations prior to adoption of this document, are not subject to these educational requirements.

IV. CLINICAL GUIDELINES

A. Minimal sedation

1. Patient Evaluation

Patients considered for minimal sedation must be suitably evaluated prior to the start of any sedative procedure. In healthy or medically stable individuals (ASA I, II) this may consist of a review of their current medical history and medication use. However, patients with significant medical considerations (ASA III, IV) may require consultation with their primary care physician or consulting medical specialist.

2. Pre-Operative Preparation

- The patient, parent, guardian or care giver must be advised regarding the procedure associated with the delivery of any sedative agents and informed consent for the proposed sedation must be obtained.
- Determination of adequate oxygen supply and equipment necessary to deliver oxygen under positive pressure must be completed.
- Baseline vital signs must be obtained unless the patient's behavior prohibits such determination.
- A focused physical evaluation must be performed as deemed appropriate.
- Preoperative dietary restrictions must be considered based on the sedative technique prescribed.
- Pre-operative verbal and written instructions must be given to the patient, parent, escort, guardian or care giver.

3. Personnel and Equipment Requirements

Personnel:

- At least one additional person trained in Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers must be present in addition to the dentist.

Equipment:

- A positive-pressure oxygen delivery system suitable for the patient being treated must be immediately available.

- When inhalation equipment is used, it must have a fail-safe system that is appropriately checked and calibrated. The equipment must also have either (1) a functioning device that prohibits the delivery of less than 30% oxygen or (2) an appropriately calibrated and functioning in-line oxygen analyzer with audible alarm.
- An appropriate scavenging system must be available if gases other than oxygen or air are used.

4. Monitoring and Documentation

Monitoring: A dentist, or at the dentist's direction, an appropriately trained individual, must remain in the operatory during active dental treatment to monitor the patient continuously until the patient meets the criteria for discharge to the recovery area. The appropriately trained individual must be familiar with monitoring techniques and equipment. Monitoring must include:

- Oxygenation:
  - Color of mucosa, skin or blood must be evaluated continually.
  - Oxygen saturation by pulse oximetry may be clinically useful and should be considered.
- Ventilation:
  - The dentist and/or appropriately trained individual must observe chest excursions continually.
  - The dentist and/or appropriately trained individual must verify respirations continually.
- Circulation:
  - Blood pressure and heart rate should be evaluated pre-operatively, post-operatively and intra-operatively as necessary (unless the patient is unable to tolerate such monitoring).

Documentation: An appropriate sedative record must be maintained, including the names of all drugs administered, including local anesthetics, dosages, and monitored physiological parameters.

5. Recovery and Discharge

- Oxygen and suction equipment must be immediately available if a separate recovery area is utilized.
- The qualified dentist or appropriately trained clinical staff must monitor the patient during recovery until the patient is ready for discharge by the dentist.
- The qualified dentist must determine and document that level of consciousness, oxygenation, ventilation and circulation are satisfactory prior to discharge.
- Post-operative verbal and written instructions must be given to the patient, parent, escort, guardian or care giver.

6. Emergency Management

If a patient enters a deeper level of sedation than the dentist is qualified to provide, the dentist must stop the dental procedure until the patient returns to the intended level of sedation.

The qualified dentist is responsible for the sedative management, adequacy of the facility and staff, diagnosis and treatment of emergencies related to the administration of minimal sedation and providing the equipment and protocols for patient rescue.

7. Management of Children

For children 12 years of age and under, the American Dental Association supports the use of the American Academy of Pediatrics/American Academy of Pediatric Dentists *Guidelines for Monitoring and Management of Pediatric Patients During and After Sedation for Diagnostic and Therapeutic Procedures.*

B. Moderate Sedation

1. Patient Evaluation

Patients considered for moderate sedation must be suitably evaluated prior to the start of any sedative procedure. In healthy or medically stable individuals (ASA I, II) this should consist of at least a review of their current medical history and medication use. However, patients with significant medical considerations (e.g., ASA III, IV) may require consultation with their primary care physician or consulting medical specialist.

2. Pre-operative Preparation

- The patient, parent, guardian or care giver must be advised regarding the procedure associated with the delivery of any sedative agents and informed consent for the proposed sedation must be obtained.
- Determination of adequate oxygen supply and equipment necessary to deliver oxygen under positive pressure must be completed.
- Baseline vital signs must be obtained unless the patient's behavior prohibits such determination.
- A focused physical evaluation must be performed as deemed appropriate.
- Preoperative dietary restrictions must be considered based on the sedative technique prescribed.
- Pre-operative verbal or written instructions must be given to the patient, parent, escort, guardian or care giver.

3. Personnel and Equipment Requirements

Personnel:

- At least one additional person trained in Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers must be present in addition to the dentist.

Equipment:

- A positive-pressure oxygen delivery system suitable for the patient being treated must be immediately available.
- When inhalation equipment is used, it must have a fail-safe system that is appropriately checked and calibrated. The equipment must also have either (1) a functioning device

that prohibits the delivery of less than 30% oxygen or (2) an appropriately calibrated and functioning in-line oxygen analyzer with audible alarm.

- An appropriate scavenging system must be available if gases other than oxygen or air are used.
- The equipment necessary to establish intravenous access must be available.

4. Monitoring and Documentation

Monitoring: A qualified dentist administering moderate sedation must remain in the operatory room to monitor the patient continuously until the patient meets the criteria for recovery. When active treatment concludes and the patient recovers to a minimally sedated level a qualified auxiliary may be directed by the dentist to remain with the patient and continue to monitor them as explained in the guidelines until they are discharged from the facility. The dentist must not leave the facility until the patient meets the criteria for discharge and is discharged from the facility. Monitoring must include:

- Consciousness:
  - Level of consciousness (e.g., responsiveness to verbal command) must be continually assessed.
- Oxygenation:
  - Color of mucosa, skin or blood must be evaluated continually.
  - Oxygen saturation must be evaluated by pulse oximetry continuously.
- Ventilation:
  - The dentist must observe chest excursions continually.
  - The dentist must monitor ventilation. This can be accomplished by auscultation of breath sounds, monitoring end-tidal CO2 or by verbal communication with the patient.
- Circulation:
  - The dentist must continually evaluate blood pressure and heart rate (unless the patient is unable to tolerate and this is noted in the time-oriented anesthesia record).
  - Continuous ECG monitoring of patients with significant cardiovascular disease should be considered.

Documentation:

- Appropriate time-oriented anesthetic record must be maintained, including the names of all drugs administered, including local anesthetics, dosages and monitored physiological parameters.
- Pulse oximetry, heart rate, respiratory rate and blood pressure must be recorded continually.

5. Recovery and Discharge

- Oxygen and suction equipment must be immediately available if a separate recovery area is utilized.

- The qualified dentist or appropriately trained clinical staff must continually monitor the patient's blood pressure, heart rate, oxygenation and level of consciousness.
- The qualified dentist must determine and document that level of consciousness; oxygenation, ventilation and circulation are satisfactory for discharge.
- Post-operative verbal and written instructions must be given to the patient, parent, escort, guardian or care giver.
- If a reversal agent is administered before discharge criteria have been met, the patient must be monitored until recovery is assured.

6. Emergency Management

If a patient enters a deeper level of sedation than the dentist is qualified to provide, the dentist must stop the dental procedure until the patient returns to the intended level of sedation.

The qualified dentist is responsible for the sedative management, adequacy of the facility and staff, diagnosis and treatment of emergencies related to the administration of moderate sedation and providing the equipment, drugs and protocol for patient rescue.

7. Management of Children

For children 12 years of age and under, the American Dental Association supports the use of the American Academy of Pediatrics/American Academy of Pediatric Dentists *Guidelines for Monitoring and Management of Pediatric Patients During and After Sedation for Diagnostic and Therapeutic Procedures.*

C. Deep Sedation or General Anesthesia

1. Patient Evaluation

Patients considered for deep sedation or general anesthesia must be suitably evaluated prior to the start of any sedative procedure. In healthy or medically stable individuals (ASA I, II) this must consist of at least a review of their current medical history and medication use and NPO status. However, patients with significant medical considerations (e.g., ASA III, IV) may require consultation with their primary care physician or consulting medical specialist.

2. Pre-operative Preparation

- The patient, parent, guardian or care giver must be advised regarding the procedure associated with the delivery of any sedative or anesthetic agents and informed consent for the proposed sedation/anesthesia must be obtained.
- Determination of adequate oxygen supply and equipment necessary to deliver oxygen under positive pressure must be completed.
- Baseline vital signs must be obtained unless the patient's behavior prohibits such determination.
- A focused physical evaluation must be performed as deemed appropriate.
- Preoperative dietary restrictions must be considered based on the sedative/anesthetic technique prescribed.

- Pre-operative verbal and written instructions must be given to the patient, parent, escort, guardian or care giver.
- An intravenous line, which is secured throughout the procedure, must be established except as provided in part IV. C.6. Pediatric and Special Needs Patients.

3. Personnel and Equipment Requirements

Personnel: A minimum of three (3) individuals must be present.

- A dentist qualified in accordance with part III. C. of these Guidelines to administer the deep sedation or general anesthesia.
- Two additional individuals who have current certification of successfully completing a Basic Life Support (BLS) Course for the Healthcare Provider.
- When the same individual administering the deep sedation or general anesthesia is performing the dental procedure, one of the additional appropriately trained team members must be designated for patient monitoring.

Equipment:

- A positive-pressure oxygen delivery system suitable for the patient being treated must be immediately available.
- When inhalation equipment is used, it must have a fail-safe system that is appropriately checked and calibrated. The equipment must also have either (1) a functioning device that prohibits the delivery of less than 30% oxygen or (2) an appropriately calibrated and functioning in-line oxygen analyzer with audible alarm.
- An appropriate scavenging system must be available if gases other than oxygen or air are used.
- The equipment necessary to establish intravenous access must be available.
- Equipment and drugs necessary to provide advanced airway management, and advanced cardiac life support must be immediately available.
- If volatile anesthetic agents are utilized, an inspired agent analysis monitor and capnograph should be considered.
- Resuscitation medications and an appropriate defibrillator must be immediately available.

4. Monitoring and Documentation

Monitoring: A qualified dentist administering deep sedation or general anesthesia must remain in the operatory room to monitor the patient continuously until the patient meets the criteria for recovery. The dentist must not leave the facility until the patient meets the criteria for discharge and is discharged from the facility. Monitoring must include:

- Oxygenation:
  - Color of mucosa, skin or blood must be continually evaluated.
  - Oxygenation saturation must be evaluated continuously by pulse oximetry.

- Ventilation:
  - Intubated patient: End-tidal CO2 must be continuously monitored and evaluated.
  - Non-intubated patient: Breath sounds via auscultation and/or end-tidal CO2 must be continually monitored and evaluated.
  - Respiration rate must be continually monitored and evaluated.
- Circulation:
  - The dentist must continuously evaluate heart rate and rhythm via ECG throughout the procedure, as well as pulse rate via pulse oximetry.
  - The dentist must continually evaluate blood pressure.
- Temperature:
  - A device capable of measuring body temperature must be readily available during the administration of deep sedation or general anesthesia.
- The equipment to continuously monitor body temperature should be available and must be performed whenever triggering agents associated with malignant hyperthermia are administered.

Documentation:

- Appropriate time-oriented anesthetic record must be maintained, including the names of all drugs administered, including local anesthetics, doses and monitored physiological parameters.
- Pulse oximetry and end-tidal CO2 measurements (if taken), heart rate, respiratory rate and blood pressure must be recorded at appropriate intervals.

5. Recovery and Discharge

- Oxygen and suction equipment must be immediately available if a separate recovery area is utilized.
- The dentist or clinical staff must continually monitor the patient's blood pressure, heart rate, oxygenation and level of consciousness.
- The dentist must determine and document that level of consciousness; oxygenation, ventilation and circulation are satisfactory for discharge.
- Post-operative verbal and written instructions must be given to the patient, parent, escort, guardian or care giver.

6. Pediatric and Special Needs Patients

Because many dental patients undergoing deep sedation or general anesthesia are mentally and/or physically challenged, it is not always possible to have a comprehensive physical examination or appropriate laboratory tests prior to administering care. When these situations occur, the dentist responsible for administering the deep sedation or general anesthesia should document the reasons preventing the recommended preoperative management.

In selected circumstances, deep sedation or general anesthesia may be utilized without establishing an indwelling intravenous line. These selected circumstances may include very

brief procedures or periods of time, which, for example, may occur in some pediatric patients; or the establishment of intravenous access after deep sedation or general anesthesia has been induced because of poor patient cooperation.

7. Emergency Management

The qualified dentist is responsible for sedative/anesthetic management, adequacy of the facility and staff, diagnosis and treatment of emergencies related to the administration of deep sedation or general anesthesia and providing the equipment, drugs and protocols for patient rescue.

V. ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION

American Academy of Pediatric Dentists (AAPD). *Guidelines for Monitoring and Management of Pediatric Patients During and After Sedation for Diagnostic and Therapeutic Procedures: An Update.* Developed through a collaborative effort between the American Academy of Pediatrics and the AAPD. Available at http://www.aapd.org/media/policies.asp

American Academy of Periodontology (AAP). *Guidelines: In-Office Use of Conscious Sedation in Periodontics.* Available at http://www.perio.org/resources-products/posppr3-1.html

American Dental Association Council on Scientific Affairs. Acceptance Program Guidelines: *Nitrous Oxide-Oxygen Conscious Sedation Systems, 2000.* Available at http://www.ada.org/prof/resources/positions/standards/denmat.asp#ada

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS). *Parameters and Pathways: Clinical Practice Guidelines for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (AAOMS ParPath 01) Anesthesia in Outpatient Facilities.* Contact AAOMS at 1-847-678-6200 or visit http://www.aaoms.org/index.php

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS). *Office Anesthesia Evaluation Manual 7th Edition.* Contact AAOMS at 1-847-678-6200 or visit http://www.aaoms.org/index.php

American Society of Anesthesiologist (ASA). *Practice Guidelines for Preoperative Fasting and the Use of Pharmacological Agents to Reduce the Risk of Pulmonary Aspiration: Application to Healthy Patients Undergoing Elective Procedures.* Available at http://www2.asahq.org/publications/p-178-practice-guidelines-for-preoperative-fasting.aspx

American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA). *Practice Guidelines for Sedation and Analgesia by Non-Anesthesiologists.* Available at http://www.asahq.org/publicationsAndServices/practiceparamhtm#sedation
The ASA has other anesthesia resources that might be of interest to dentists.
For more information, go to http://www.asahq.org/publicationsAndServices/sgstoc.htm

Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA). *Accreditation Standards* for Predoctoral and Advanced Dental Education Programs. Available at http://www.ada.org/prof/ed/accred/standards/index.asp

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). *Controlling Exposures to Nitrous Oxide During Anesthetic Administration* (NIOSH Alert: 1994 Publication No. 94-100). Available at http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/noxidalr.html

Dionne, Raymond A.; Yagiela, John A., et al. Balancing efficacy and safety in the use of oral sedation in dental outpatients. JADA 2006;137(4):502-13. ADA members can access this article online at http://jada.ada.org/cgi/content/full/137/4/502