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LOCAL ANESTHETIC CONSENT FORM

We strive to make dental care as comfortable as possible. One of the strategies we employ is the use of dental anesthetics. (such as lidocaine, mepivacaine, articaine). although the use of local anesthetics is safe, well-established procedure to pain control, adverse reactions can occur. These reactions include, but are not limited to, the following items:

1. Rapid heartbeat- The anesthetic may make your heart race for a few minutes after the anesthetic is administered; it is usually short lived. If you have high blood pressure, please let Dr Riley know.
2. Fainting-can be associated with a rapid pulse, usually associated with fear.
3. Hyperventilation-This is characterized by rapid breathing, lightheadedness, tingling in the hands, and possible tightness of the chest. It is usually associated with fear.
4. Allergic Reactions- These are extremely rare with the anesthetics we use. They can be characterized by swelling, redness, or anaphylactic reactions that involve trouble with breathing. If you have experienced an adverse reaction to an anesthetic before, please let us know.
5. Toxicity Reactions- These occur from overdose or rapid absorption of the anesthetic into your blood stream. We will never administer more than is recommended for your body size, but, it is important to understand that everyone has a different tolerance to medications.

Complications that can arise from the use of local anesthetic include:

1. Numbness to additional areas of the face can occur due to variations to the nerve anatomy. These areas will start to feel normal after the anesthetic wears off, usually 1-4 hours.
2. Paresthesia can occur when the nerve is traumatized during the administration of anesthetic. This any result in a lingering feeling of numbness, tingling, burning or pain. Although rare, it most often occurs when numbing the lower back teeth. In most cases, the symptoms of paresthesia gradually diminish with time, but in some rare cases they may be permanent. Unfortunately, the only alternative to avoid this risk is to have dental work completed without anesthetic (most people accept the risk). If you experience symptoms of paresthesia after dental work, please inform us as soon as possible because early treatment is essential for certain cases of paresthesia.
3. A "shocking" sensation can occur when the anesthetic is administered close to the nerve, it is usually short lived.
4. Hematoma- This is characterized by blood pooling outside the blood vessels and can have the appearance of a swollen bruise. It occurs when a blood vessel is punctured during the procedure. They may be visible up to two weeks, but will usually resolve on their own.
5. Trauma to the lips and cheeks while the anesthetized tissue is numb.
6. Jaw pain can result from the muscle around the area of the anesthetic or from holding your mouth open for an extended period of time during dental work.

Please let us know if you have had any type of allergic or adverse reaction to dental anesthetics in the past. Fortunately, complications related to the use of anesthetics are rare.

I consent to the use of dental anesthetic whenever Dr Riley recommends it for dental treatment. I understand that I can certainly request not to use anesthetic for any procedure.

Patient or Guardian Signature _____ Date _____