I.V. Anesthesia Post-Operative Instructions

Activity:

Please limit the patient's activity to a minimum for the rest of the day. A quiet day watching TV, or reading books is best. The patient may have some residual dizziness, and has not recovered his/her balance fully. He/she may fall and hurt him/herself during rigorous activities, such as riding a bike, or swimming. Adult patients are not allowed to drive or operate dangerous machinery. If the patient does decide to sleep, make sure someone is watching so the patient doesn't get up and fall.

Pain:

During the procedure, the anesthesiologist will usually give a pain reliever, called Toradal (ketorolac), through the IV. The patient should continue to be comfortable for the next 4-6 hours after the procedure. Toradal is a NSAID like aspirin, ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil), and naproxen (Aleve). If the patient does feel pain afterwards, do not give the same class of drugs again during the first 4 hours. Instead, you can use acetaminophen (Tylenol), or other narcotics that your dentist has prescribed for pain.

Diet:

Limit the patient's intake until the car ride is over. There is a good chance that motion can cause nausea and vomiting if the stomach has any food or large amounts of liquid. Once the patient is home, he/she may have some liquids and soft foods. Examples of soft foods include applesauce, yogurt, ice cream, popsicles, smoothies, scrambled eggs, and soup. Once the patient tolerates the soft foods, he/she may go on to more solid food.

Nausea/Vomiting:

During the procedure, the anesthesiologist will usually give an anti-nausea medication, called Zofran. However, there is still a rare chance that nausea and vomiting may occur during the first 24 hours. If symptoms persist beyond 24 hours, please call Dr. Mai Huynh.

Lips:

The lips may look swollen if the procedures were long. It is cause by prolonged stretching of the mouth. The swelling typically decreases within 24 hours.

If you have any concerns about post-operative instructions, please don't hesitate to call Dr. Mai Huynh at (619) 339-1188.