



## Adults accompanying patients having intravenous sedation

### Introduction

This leaflet outlines your role when accompanying a patient who is having intravenous sedation

### What is intravenous sedation?

- Intravenous sedation involves giving the patient a small injection of a sedative drug through a plastic tube (cannula), which is placed into a vein in either the hand or arm. The sedative drug will make the patient feel relaxed during treatment.
- Intravenous sedation is not the same as a general anaesthetic which puts the patient fully off to sleep. However many people do not remember anything about their treatment.

### What are my responsibilities?

- You must attend with the patient and remain in the waiting room throughout the patient's appointment. Escorts cannot leave the practice whilst the patient is having sedation
- You will need to support and look after the patient when they go home and ensure they are cared for over the next 12 hours
- You will be responsible for taking the patient home in a car or taxi, not public transport.

### For 12 hours after the appointment

The patient **must not**

- Drive any vehicle or ride a bicycle
- Return to work
- Operate any machinery or use any domestic appliance
- Drink alcohol or take any recreational drugs
- Make important decisions, sign any legal documents, or make any transactions on the internet
- Look after any young children

The patient **must**

- Take all prescribed medication at normal times (unless informed otherwise); this should be supervised by another adult.

**If at any time during the patient's visit to the surgery you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to ask any of our staff who will be more than happy to help.**

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