

NITROUS OXIDE/ OXYGEN SEDATION OBJECTIVES

The following list of objectives may assist the dental office in providing a ND registered dental assistant with the knowledge and skill necessary to monitor nitrous oxide/oxygen. At the completion of this course the dental assistant will be able to:

1. Discuss the utilization of nitrous oxide/oxygen sedation for anxiety and pain management.
2. Identify the levels of sedation, including the signs and symptoms of minimal and oversedation.
3. Discuss the importance of health history in relation to nitrous oxide/oxygen use.
4. Discuss the anatomy and physiology of respiration.
5. Discuss the clinical and pharmacological effects of nitrous oxide/oxygen.
6. Recognize indications/contraindications for nitrous oxide/oxygen sedation.
7. Describe equipment/armamentarium selection needed for nitrous oxide/oxygen sedation.
8. Assemble nitrous oxide/oxygen equipment in preparation for use.
9. Understand positive pressure technique for medical emergency management associated with nitrous/oxide administration.
10. Discuss safety issues and concerns with regard to dental healthcare workers and environmental hygiene.
11. Identify the complications that may arise during the administration of nitrous oxide/oxygen and the management of an associated medical emergency.
12. Describe the record keeping for a patient undergoing nitrous oxide/oxygen sedation.
13. Discuss the legal issues of nitrous oxide/oxygen use.
14. Differentiate between administration and monitoring nitrous oxide/oxygen sedation.
15. Discuss the nitrous oxide/oxygen application procedure.
16. Understand proper nitrous oxide/oxygen levels and baselines.
17. Know how to maintain and evaluate equipment function.
18. Discuss the importance of patient consent for nitrous oxide/oxygen sedation.
19. Discuss infection control techniques unique to nitrous oxide/oxygen sedation.
20. Describe patient education information for nitrous oxide/oxygen sedation, including both pre and post oral and written instructions.
21. Demonstrate proper placement of the mask and mask adjustment.
22. Demonstrate the skill necessary to monitor a patient during nitrous oxide/oxygen sedation.
23. Understand how to reverse nitrous oxide/oxygen sedation.
24. Discuss the procedure for patient discharge following nitrous oxide/oxygen sedation.

Recommended text: Handbook of Nitrous Oxide and Oxygen Sedation, Morris Clark and Ann Brunick, 2nd Ed. Mosby, 2003