

Dear Colleague

Welcome to UKSedation and many thanks for your recent enquiry. Please find below some relevant information and some FAQs about using our service. We hope you find this information useful but of course we are always on hand for help and support.

UK Sedation was set up with four main goals when it come to roving sedation:

1. A easy online booking system that can be done by the receptionist, at the same time as the patient books in your diary.
2. A robust and constantly updated online CQC compliance pack, reassuring the practices that the sedationist is suitably qualified, registered and insured. The compliance information is designed to be at the level that you would expect from an associate working in your practice.
3. We want to work with practices to develop sedation within their businesses, increasing case acceptance when anxiety could be a factor, like surgical and implant work, and word of mouth referrals to increase the number of patients seeking you out for treatment.
4. We want to help educate the entire dental team in Conscious Sedation, through our own in-house CPD, resources and mentoring. We feel that an empowered educated team will be more confident in not only spotting the potential for sedation amongst their patients, but also feel more comfortable caring for the sedated patient.

Pre-assessment

Not all dental professionals are trained in assessing the patients suitability for sedation. So we try to make it easier for them. We can provide Assessment forms for use in the surgery and when you book a session online, we will ask some basic information about the patient, like ASA status (we treat over 12s in the ASA I/II categories). DO become familiar with ASA status, check out the Resources section of our website to find a handy reference guide.

It is also sensible to look at the sedation consent form, also in the resources section. This will give you a better idea of what to be discussing with the patients in the chair, e.g. that it's "Conscious Sedation" not a GA, we aren't putting them to sleep, just getting them very relaxed....although they may feel like it was a sleep!" It's also important to tell them they need a responsible escort and no driving or working the rest of the day.



Online booking

When the patient is ready to proceed, fees have been discussed and agreed (see below) then you can use the live online diary on the website. You simply find a day when your sedationist is available, and choose either the morning or afternoon slot. We ask that whatever time you are booking the patient in, the treatment falls inside the available sedation session, e.g. a morning session (say 8.30am to 12pm) can't have a three hour implant procedure booked in at 11am. We leave two hour between session to move between practices.

If it is a treatment likely to go beyond three hours, simply find a day when both am and pm slots are free and book both.

We are often available on Saturdays and non-listed days even though they may not be in the online diary. If you are stuck, just drop us an email. We reply to most emails within the hour.

When you make a booking, you will be asked a series of questions about the patient and the practice. Do make sure the answers are as accurate as possible as these do constitute clinical records.

Once the booking is made, we will be notified, you can advise the patient to either fill in the online consent form at the top of our website or print them off / email them a copy from our resources section. Sedation doesn't get performed without valid written and verbal consent. The online consent is preferable as we get that in advance and also can be viewed in video format which is a lot easier to digest for some people.

On the last page of your booking on the website, you can set up an account so you don't have to keep writing the same information each time and you can login and track your bookings.

That booking comes through to you as an email with instructions and links to cancel or reschedule if the need arises.

We can then contact the patient for a phone call / zoom meeting to do a virtual sedation consult if necessary before the treatment.

We would also suggest you phone the patient the day before to confirm the appointment as there may be a fee payable by us if the patient doesn't attend - fortunately this is a very rare occurrence!



Fees and Payments

Fees differ between the sedationists and their fees are listed when you click Book Now and enter their diary. Most sedationists charge on an hourly basis so it's best to estimate the time it's going to take with the patient.

Treatment sessions are always a minimum of one hour. We normally require about 15 mins to induce the patient, a single dose of midazolam can last for 30-40 minutes and then a few minutes to discharge the patient. With any treatment likely to take over 40 mins we top up the sedative.

We can take payment direct from the patient either by BACS, credit / debit card on the day or our preferred method is to invoice the practice after the treatment. We cannot take payment from the patient directly after treatment.

Arrival and patient discharge

We will aim to arrive at least 15 mins before the appointment. Set up time is minimal, we just ask for a small work area near the patient to set up our equipment.

We will recover the patient in the chair so there is no need for a separate recovery room. The sedation is timed so that the recovery time is minimal. Once the patient is able to stand up, we will escort them to the waiting area and to their escort, give post op instructions and discharge from the practice.

CQC Compliance

With every booking you will receive a link to the Dropbox Folder for the particular sedationist. This contains all the information you need to know about the visiting sedationist, with compliance at the level you would expect of any associate dentist. Information includes, training and qualifications, registration, ID, insurance, HepB, CPD logs and PDP.

You can check that information whenever you like and we welcome feedback if you think there are any areas we could be stronger on. You can print off all of the information and store in a folder, or just keep the Dropbox link.

What you need to do:

Responsibility for the care of the sedated patient lies with the entire team and everyone has a role to play.



It is important that you and your team are familiar with IACSD Guidelines (2020) on Conscious Sedation as this document applies to all team members, not just the sedationist.

As we are visiting as the sedationists only and not carrying out dentistry, a second appropriate person, i.e. a sedation nurse is not required. You do need to make sure that you and your team have up to date BLS + AED + Airway management training and we strongly recommend ILS training as per the guidelines. Details of some providers, including low cost online courses can be found on our website.

On every booking we ask that you confirm you have an emergency oxygen cylinder and up to date emergency drugs. Some sedationists carry their own oxygen cylinders, some have oxygen concentrators but it is nice to know where the emergency kits are in your practice.

We will provide all the equipment necessary for the sedation, you don't need to provide anything apart from gloves.

Some sedationists may carry IV Paracetamol and IV Dexamethasone, useful drugs for more invasive dental procedures.

Sedation provides the reduction in anxiety. Because the patient is conscious throughout, their response to pain is still intact. If it wasn't, that would be a borderline General Anaesthetic which isn't allowed in general practice in the UK. It is the clinician's responsibility to make sure the patient is properly anaesthetised. Just introducing more sedation to hide the pain is difficult and makes the procedure more unsafe.

vCPD

On our website we have a range of useful courses for dental teams involved in sedation, and sedationists themselves. We believe that a team strong in knowledge will be able to provide a better level of care and we will continue to produce content that may help you. We would love to keep you informed by email of new courses being released.

The first course we recommend is "Management of Sedation Complications" a recorded webinar for the whole team. This will teach the team about common and rare things they may be involved with during a sedation session. Please see our website for details.



Offering sedation to your patients.

Over 50% of the population aren't going to the dentist. Over 40% says that they have moderate to severe anxiety about the dentist. Have a discussion with anyone at a dinner party and you are guaranteed to have someone tell you how much they hate the dentist.

There is a huge dental need in the UK which is going unaddressed. In practice, we are witnessing a lot of cases of implant rehabilitation, often full mouth surgery, on patients who haven't attended for most of their adult lives.

Many of your own patients won't know that the service may exist. They may be more willing to accept treatment if you are able to have them sedated.

We can provide you with patient information leaflets or any other support you may need. We can work with you on information for your website and can offer you a free link in our DentalSedationDirectory.org website to improve your search engine optimisation, as well as our patient facing website www.dentistanxiety.co.uk. Just ask us to list your practice.

We like to develop relationships with our practices as we often return to do more and more work with them. By supporting you with your marketing, your staff training and development we look forward to being an important part of your team!

We are always on hand to help, answer any questions you may have, have a zoom call or come and meet you and the team. Just get in touch.

With best wishes

Dr Rob Endicott BDS

Founder and CEO of UKSedation

Text / Whatsapp anytime at 07968 737364