

For the State of Oregon

The answer to a question...

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The following information is based on:

Oregon Board of Dentistry

Division 26: Anesthesia

Available at: http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/pages/rules/oars_800/oar_818/818_026.html

Classes of Permits

818-026-0035

Classes of Anesthesia Permit

The Board shall issue the following classes of permits:

- (1) A **Nitrous Oxide Permit** authorizes a dental hygienist or a dentist to induce nitrous oxide sedation.
- (2) A **Minimal Sedation Permit** authorizes a dentist to induce minimal sedation and nitrous oxide sedation.
- (3) A **Moderate Sedation Permit** authorizes a dentist to induce moderate sedation, minimal sedation and nitrous oxide sedation.
- (4) A **Deep Sedation Permit** authorizes a dentist to induce deep sedation, moderate sedation, minimal sedation, and nitrous oxide sedation. The Board shall issue a Deep Sedation Permit to a licensee who holds a Class 3 Permit on or before July 1, 2010.
- (5) A **General Anesthesia Permit** authorizes a dentist to induce general anesthesia, deep sedation, moderate sedation, minimal sedation and nitrous oxide sedation.

Low Dose, Single Agents

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Low Dose, Single Agents Administered for Relaxation Purposes

It is not the Board's intent, nor do the Board's rules require, that a dentist who prescribes low doses of a single agent for relaxation purposes, obtain an anesthesia permit.

For example, having a normal healthy adult take a 5 mg. dose of Valium prior to an appointment would not require an anesthesia permit unless additional sedative agents (excluding local anesthetic) are given to the patient at the time of treatment.

A dental hygienist may work on a patient who has taken a low dose of relaxant as described above and then requires nitrous oxide during the dental or dental hygiene procedure under the indirect supervision of a dentist. However, in this situation, the dentist must administer the nitrous oxide and also have a Minimal Sedation permit.

What about the term “Anxiolysis”?

818-026-0010(2) Definitions: "Anxiolysis" means the diminution or elimination of anxiety.

818-026-0020(4) Presumption of Degree of Central Nervous System Depression: A licensee that does not hold a Moderate, Deep Sedation or General Anesthesia Permit may not administer, for purpose of anxiolysis or sedation, Benzodiazepines or narcotics in children under 6 years of age.

818-026-0030(6) Requirement for Anesthesia Permit, Standards and Qualifications of an Anesthesia Monitor: When a dentist utilizes a single dose oral agent to achieve anxiolysis only, no anesthesia permit is required.

818-026-0050(5) Minimal Sedation Permit: While the patient is being treated under minimal sedation, an anesthesia monitor shall be present in the room in addition to the treatment provider. The anesthesia monitor may be the dental assistant. After training, a dental assistant, when directed by a dentist, may administer oral sedative agents or anxiolysis agents calculated and dispensed by a dentist under the direct supervision of a dentist.

So What Can I Do?

Oral medications at/below the MRD for diminution or elimination of anxiety or fear (relaxation), eg, 5mg Valium (no N2O/O2):

NO PERMIT REQUIRED

Nitrous oxide and Oxygen:

NITROUS OXIDE
PERMIT REQUIRED

Oral Medications for minimal sedation (with or without N2O/O2):

MINIMAL SEDATION
PERMIT REQUIRED

Oral Medications for relaxation with nitrous oxide:

MINIMAL SEDATION
PERMIT REQUIRED

Oral medications for relaxation being worked on by the hygienist (with or without N2O/O2):

MINIMAL SEDATION
PERMIT REQUIRED

Oral medications for relaxation for a patient that may be taking another chronic medication that may cause additive sedation past "relaxation":

MINIMAL SEDATION
PERMIT REQUIRED

Using nitrous oxide/oxygen on a patient that may be chronically taking another medication that may cause additive sedation past "relaxation":

MINIMAL SEDATION
PERMIT REQUIRED