



Nitrous Oxide Sedation

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Sedation Definitions

Sedation:

Mild suppression of arousal and behavior.

Sedative drugs decrease the activity, moderate excitement and calm the recipients

Anxiolysis:

Specific ability to remove anxiety

Hypnotics:

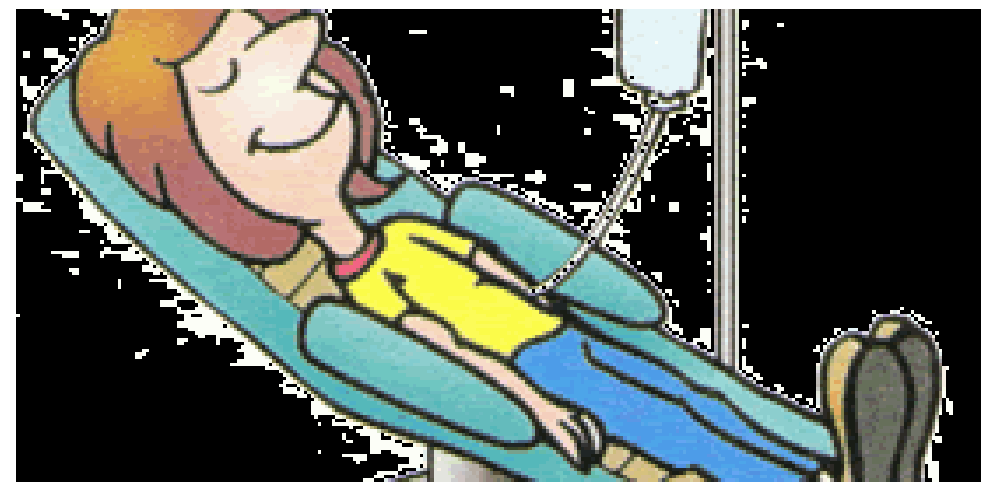
Drugs which produce drowsiness and facilitate the onset and maintenance of sleep

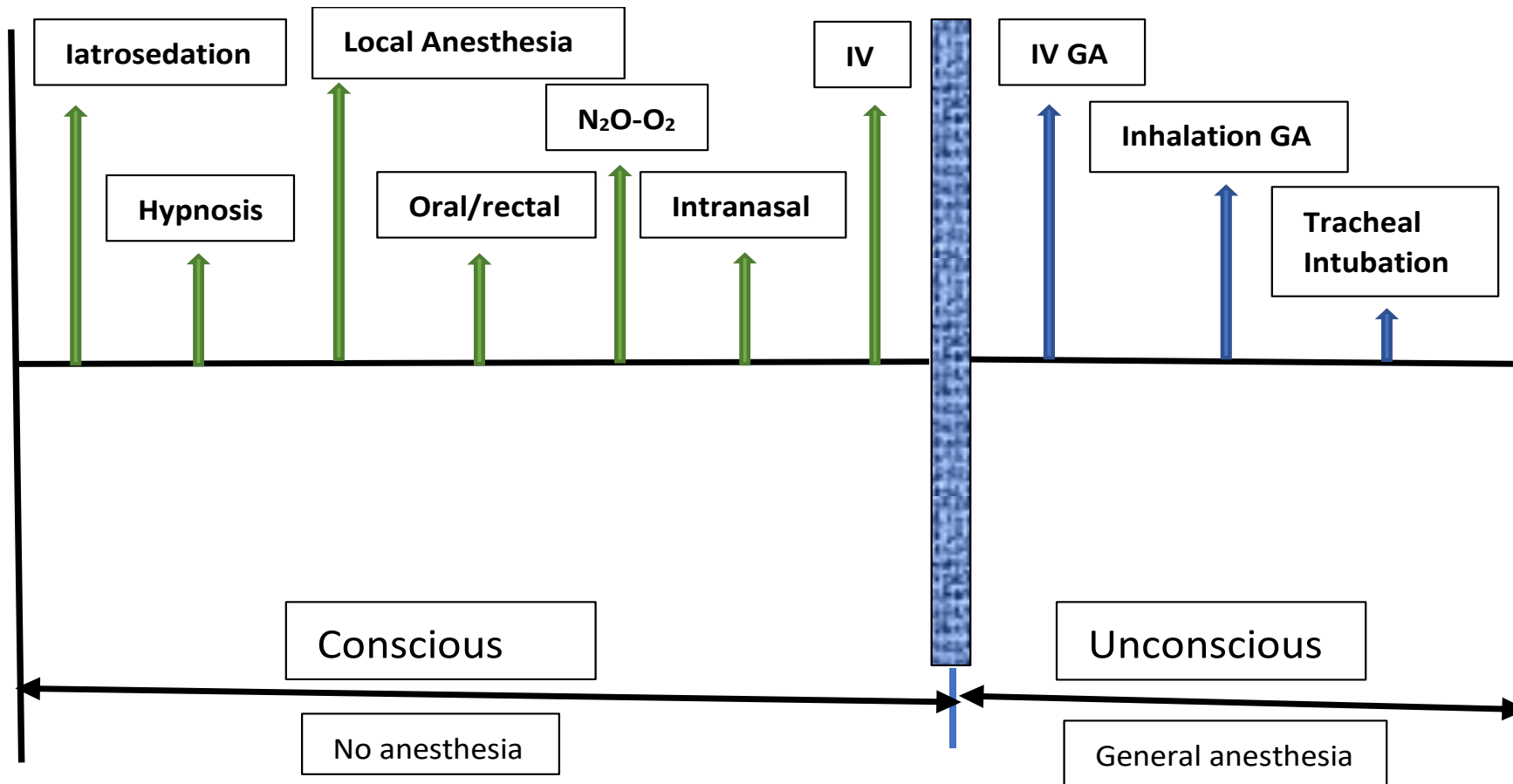
Conscious Sedation:

Minimally depressed level of consciousness

Retains ability to independently and continuously maintain an airway

And respond appropriately to physical stimulation and verbal command





SPECTRUM OF ANXIETY CONTROL

	Consciousness	Response to Verbal Commands	Responsiveness to tactile stimulation	Protective Reflexes	Airway Maintenance	Spontaneous Ventilation	CVS Function	Monitoring	Efficacy
Minimal Sedation	Maintained	Maintained	Normal Response	Intact	Maintained	Unaffected	Unaffected	Basic	If mild to moderate anxiety
Moderate Sedation	Maintained	Maintained	Purposeful response	Intact	No intervention required	Adequate	Maintained	Increased	If moderate anxiety or fear
Deep Sedation	Obtunded (Not Sensitive)	Absent	Purposeful response following painful stimulation	Depressed	May require intervention	May be inadequate	Maintained	Advanced	If significant fear or phobia
General Anesthesia	Unconscious	Absent	Unarousable even with painful stimulus	Absent	Intervention usually required	Frequently inadequate	Impaired	Advanced	All patients

Comparison of levels of Sedation

Consciousness:

Minimal sedation: **maintained**

Moderate sedation: **maintained**

Deep sedation: **obtunded**

General Anesthesia: **unconscious**

LEVELS OF CONSCIOUSNESS

A

Alert



V

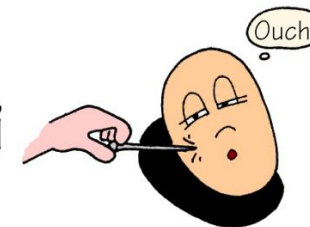
Verbal
Stimuli



Huh?

P

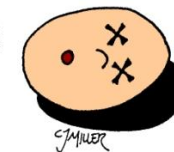
Painful
Stimuli



Ouch!

U

Unresponsive



Comparison of levels of Sedation

Purposeful Response to
verbal commands

Minimal sedation:
maintained

Moderate sedation:
maintained

Deep sedation:
absent

General Anesthesia:
absent

Comparison of levels of Sedation

Responsiveness

Minimal sedation: normal response to verbal and tactile stimulation

Moderate sedation: purposeful response to verbal with tactile stimulation

Deep sedation: purposeful response following repeated or painful stimulation

General Anesthesia: unarousable, even with painful stimulus

LEVELS OF CONSCIOUSNESS

A

Alert



V

Verbal
Stimuli

Hey
You!

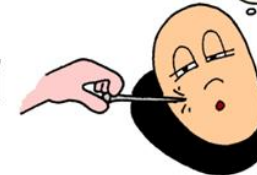
Huh?



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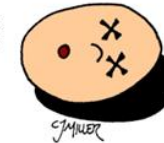
Painful
Stimuli

Ouch!



U

Unresponsive



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Comparison of levels of Sedation

Protective Reflexes

Minimal sedation: intact

Moderate sedation: intact

Deep sedation: depressed

General Anesthesia: absent

Airway Maintenance

Minimal sedation: maintained

Moderate sedation: no intervention required

Deep sedation: may require intervention

General Anesthesia: intervention usually required

Comparison of levels of Sedation

Spontaneous Ventilation

Minimal sedation: unaffected

Moderate sedation: adequate

Deep sedation: may be inadequate

General Anesthesia: frequently inadequate

Comparison of levels of Sedation

Comparison of levels of Sedation

CVS Function

Minimal sedation: unaffected

Moderate sedation: usually maintained

Deep sedation: usually maintained

General Anesthesia: may be impaired

Monitoring



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graph TD; A[Monitoring] --> B[Minimal sedation: basic]; B --> C[Moderate sedation: increased]; C --> D[Deep sedation: advanced]; D --> E[General Anesthesia: advanced];
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Minimal sedation: basic

Moderate sedation: increased

Deep sedation: advanced

General Anesthesia: advanced

Comparison of levels of Sedation

Efficacy

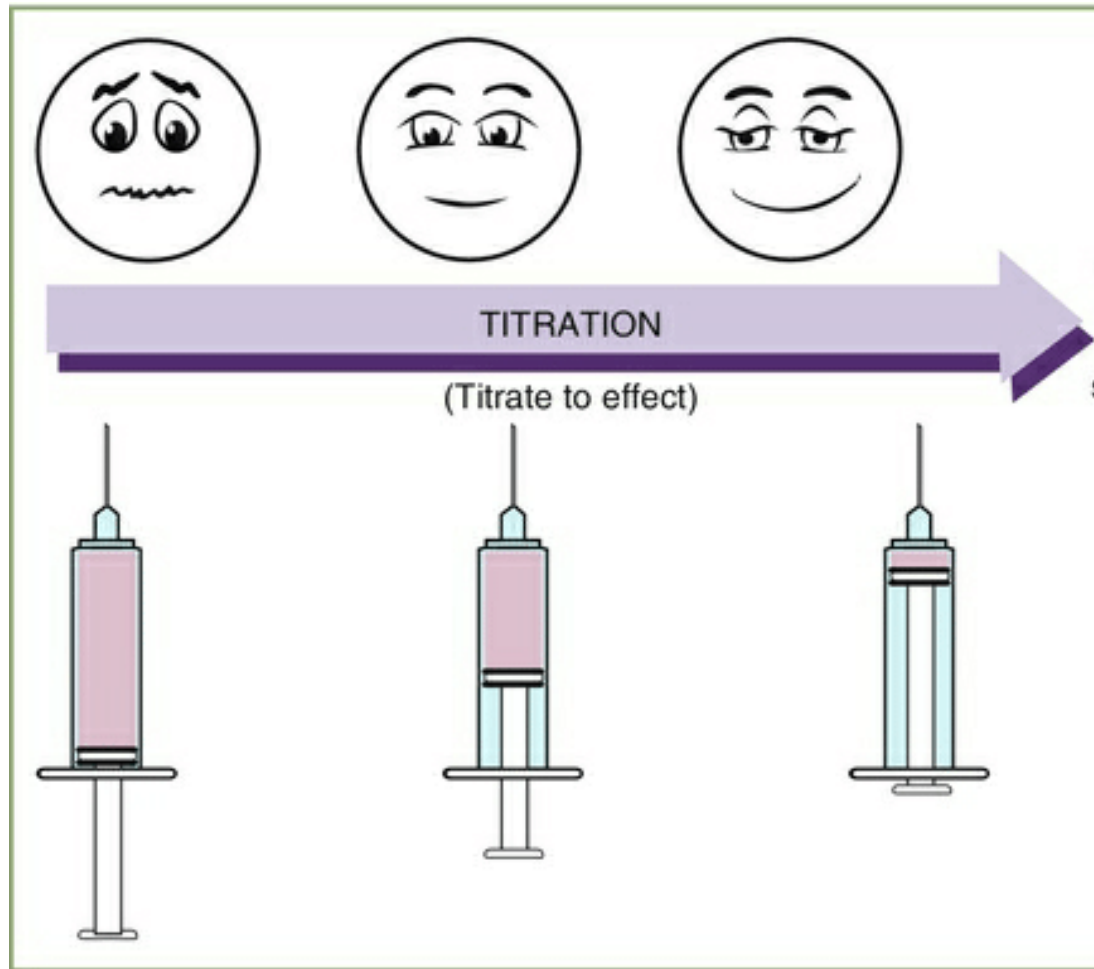
Minimal sedation: if mild to moderate anxiety

Moderate sedation: if moderate anxiety or fear, possibly phobia

Deep sedation: if significant fear or phobia

General Anesthesia: all patients

Comparison of levels of Sedation



Optimal point of format

Routes of administration comparison

Ability to Titrate

- Inhalation: **Excellent**
- Oral: **None**
- Intravenous: **Excellent**

Nitrous Oxide Effects

Ideal symptoms:

- Relaxation
- Light-headedness
- Tingling of hands and feet
- Warmth



Nitrous Oxide Effects

Ideal symptoms:

- Circumoral numbness
- Numbness of hands and feet
- Extremities feel light or heavy
- Decreased muscle tone
- Transient increase in HR and BP
- Normal respiration
- Peripheral vasodilation



Nitrous oxide

Cardiovascular effects:

- Weak myocardial depressant
- Mild sympathomimetic
- Overall, negligible effect



Cardiac symptoms in children
are *atypical*.

Shortness of breath

Poor feeding

Irritability

Nausea and vomiting

Low energy

Nitrous oxide

Respiratory Effects:

- Mild depressant
- Overall, effect is not significant
 - Slight increase in rate
 - Slight decrease in tidal volume
- Depresses: central hypercapnic (CO_2) response and peripheral hypoxemic (O_2) centers
- Concern re: COPD patients



The Pediatric Patient

- Children less than 6-years-old and those with developmental delay require deep levels of sedation to gain control of their behavior
- Need of thorough pre-operative evaluation
- Appropriate drug selection
- Appropriate physiologic monitoring and continuous observation



The Pediatric Patient

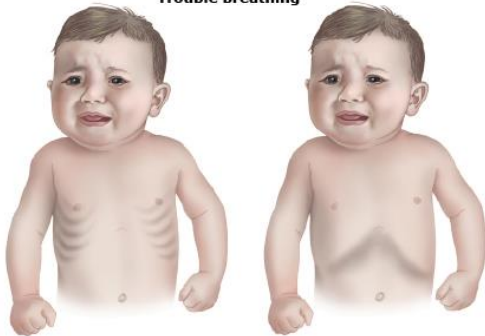
Sedation of pediatric patients has serious associated risks, such as:

- Hypoventilation
- Apnea
- Airway obstruction
- Laryngospasm
- Allergic reactions
- Seizures
- Cardiopulmonary impairments

Normal



Trouble breathing



Pediatric Airway Anatomy

7. The process of alveolization continues beyond the infant age
20-50 million alveoli at birth in a term infant
300 million by the age of 8 years



The Pediatric Patient

Anatomy

Head (large occiput): maintenance of patent airway is more challenging

✓ Placement of a roll under the shoulders

Nose (narrow nares): easily obstructed by secretions or swelling

Tongue: larger size relative to mouth

Trachea: narrowest diameter –cricoid cartilage

Epiglottis- longer, floppier

Pediatric Respiratory Rates



Age range

- 2- 3 years old
- 4- 5 years old
- 6-11 years old
- ≥ 12 years old

Respiratory Rates (breaths/mins)

- 20- 30
- 20- 25
- 16- 20
- 16

Pediatric Heart Rates

Age range

- 2- 3 years old
- 4- 5 years old
- 6- 7 years old
- 8- 9 years old
- 10- 11 years old
- ≥ 12 years old

+ 2
↓

Minimum Systolic (mmHg)

- 65
- 70
- 75
- 80
- 85
- 90

Add 5 for
every range
↓



Preparation for Sedation

S (suction)

O (oxygen)

A (airway)

P (pharmacy)

M (monitors)

E (equipment)



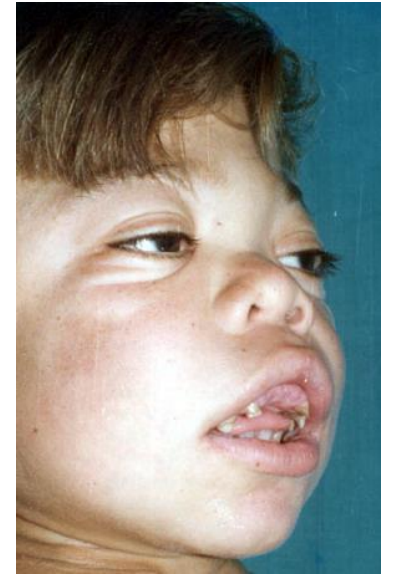
Pulse Oximeter

**NORMAL OXYGEN SATURATION
RANGE**

95% - 100%

Congenital Pediatric Airway Problems

- Hurler's Syndrome
- Pierre Robin Syndrome
- Treacher Collin's Syndrome
- Goldenhar's Syndrome
- Crouzon's Syndrome
- Cleft Lip and Palate





Pre-operative Evaluation

- Age and weight
- Allergies and previous adverse drug reactions
- Medication/drug history (including herbal meds)
- Relevant diseases, physical abnormalities, neurological impairment that may increase risk of airway obstruction e.g., snoring, obstructive sleep apnea (adeno-tonsillar hypertrophy)

Pre-operative Evaluation

- Vital signs- HR, BP, respiratory rate and temperature
- Physical examination: evaluation of the airway
- History of Asthma (ER vs. ICU)
- Heart murmur (shortness of breath on exertion and/or at rest)
- Upper respiratory tract infection (nasal blockage, bronchospasm)
- ASA classification



References:

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- Dr. M Tang. Physiology and management of airway during sedation in Pediatric patients
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- Haas DA. Emergency drugs in Dental Clinics of North America, Vol 46: October 2002.