



## NHS MEDICAL POLICY

### Dental Anesthesia Procedure 2018-006

**General anesthesia in a hospital or surgery center may be indicated for a dental procedure when any ONE of the following is present:**

1	A child, age 4 or under, requires treatment in more than one quadrant of the mouth which cannot be delayed until the child matures.
2	A child, age 8 or under, requires multiple restorations or extractions in more than one quadrant of the mouth and has a history of failed attempts in the office under local anesthesia. The dental procedures cannot be delayed until the child matures.
3	A dentist has described how local anesthesia would be ineffective or poorly tolerated because of acute infection, anatomic variation, or allergy to local agents.
4	A dentist has described how extensive dental restorative or surgical treatment cannot be adequately rendered under local anesthesia or conscious sedation.
5	Both local anesthesia and conscious sedation (either inhalation or oral) were already tried but failed to control pain with a needed dental procedure.
6	A dentist has described how a physical, intellectual, developmental, psychiatric or medical condition prevents humane and successful dental treatment under local anesthesia.

### SOURCES

1. American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. Guideline on use of anesthesia personnel in the administration of office-based deep sedation/general anesthesia to the pediatric dental patient. Adopted 2001, Revised through 2012.
2. The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) Pediatric Oral Health Research and Policy Center (POHRPC) [www.aapd.org](http://www.aapd.org) was accessed Sep 10, 2018.
3. Milliman Care Guidelines, 22nd edition, was accessed Sep 10, 2018: Head and Neck Surgery or Procedure GRG (SG-HNS)

**CODE REFERENCE** (This may not be a comprehensive list of codes to apply to this policy.)

**POLICY HISTORY/REVISION INFORMATION**

Date	Action/Description
09/12/2019	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/10/2020	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/10/2021	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/19/2022	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
08/23/2023	Annual review and approval by UM Committee