

IV Sedation for Dental Implants

What is IV sedation?

Dental implant treatment is routine and predictable, but it can involve longer or more complex procedures such as multiple implants, bone grafting, or sinus surgery. Remaining awake and still for extended periods can feel daunting, and it is completely normal to feel anxious. IV sedation helps you feel calm, relaxed, and comfortable during treatment.

There are two IV sedation options available for implant treatment: simple IV sedation, commonly used for shorter or straightforward procedures, and advanced IV sedation, which may be recommended when standard techniques are not suitable. Advanced IV sedation is provided by our team of consultant anaesthetists and is commonly used for longer or more complex implant procedures. With both options, you remain conscious and breathing independently, but relaxed and calm, with reduced awareness and often little or no memory of the procedure, while being continuously monitored throughout your treatment.

Why IV sedation for implants?

- ✓ Helps you feel calm and relaxed
- ✓ Supports a pleasant treatment experience
- ✓ Can make long procedures feel shorter
- ✓ Minimises discomfort and gag reflex
- ✓ Helps you stay still during precise surgery
- ✓ Less memory of your procedure

Simple IV Sedation (Dentist-led)

Used for simpler or shorter procedures. You remain conscious and relaxed, with reduced awareness and discomfort. Small doses of a single sedative drug will be administered to you by a dental sedationist in a controlled way with continuous monitoring.

- ✓ Suitable for shorter appointments
- ✓ Simple implant treatments
- ✓ Also for routine dental treatment
- ✓ Mild to moderate anxiety

Advanced IV Sedation (Anaesthetist-led)

Designed for longer or more complex implant surgery, or for patients who require a deeper level of sedation. A combination of sedative and analgesic drugs are delivered by a consultant anaesthetist. Delivered by a pump to maintain a steady state of sedation for several hours.

- ✓ Suitable for longer appointments
- ✓ Multiple implants/full arch rehabilitation
- ✓ High levels of dental anxiety
- ✓ Often little to no memory of treatment



FAQs

What does IV sedation feel like?

Most patients feel relaxed and drowsy. You may feel detached from your surroundings. Many people describe it as feeling calm and dream-like.

Will I be asleep?

No. IV sedation is not a general anaesthetic. You remain conscious and able to breathe on your own, and you can respond to verbal commands.

Will I remember the treatment?

Most patients remember very little or nothing at all. The medication has a strong amnesic effect, meaning details of the procedure are often forgotten.

What happens after the sedation?

You will recover in the dental chair (approx 1 hr) before being discharged. You will need to have a chaperone to take you home and take care of you for the next 24 hours.

SCAN ME



Find out more

How to get started

1 Discuss sedation with your dentist

Inform your dentist that you would like sedation for your dental treatment. Visit our website for more information on the sedation options.

2 Pre-assessment

You'll have a pre-sedation assessment with our team, either virtual (online) or in person, to ensure sedation is safe and suitable for you. We will provide you with all instructions.

3 Sedation suitability

Your assessment enables us to determine whether IV sedation is suitable for you in a dental clinic. Some people with very complex or unstable medical conditions or a high BMI may not be suitable.

4 Day of treatment

Your sedation team will be with you throughout your implant procedure, ensuring comfort, monitoring, and support on the day until you are fit to go home.

"Had upper and lower **implant** bridges fitted recently. **Three hours** in the dentist chair. The whole **process** was **incredibly** easy with the help of Dental Sedation Solutions. My **anaesthetist** was friendly and **professional**, explaining everything. The preoperative process was **thorough** and Dr Shah went above and beyond in arranging everything."

PATIENT EXPERIENCE



MEET OUR TEAM



Dr Shilpa Shah
Director, Dental Sedationist
(Adults and Adolescents)



Dr Chris Goodman
Consultant Anaesthetist
(Adults & Adolescents)



Dr Helen Kennedy
Consultant Anaesthetist
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Dr Justin Roberts
Consultant Anaesthetist
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Dr Paweł Arkuszynski
Consultant Anaesthetist
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Dr Gareth Kitchen
Consultant Anaesthetist
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Dr Patrick Haywood
Consultant Anaesthetist
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