

Patient Comfort

Many procedures can be performed with the use of local anesthesia, commonly referred to as “freezing”. Local anesthesia numbs the area where the work will be performed, and typically will wear off within a few hours. After placing topical anesthetic to desensitize the injection site, a syringe of the local anesthesia is administered.

Care of the Mouth after Local Anesthetics

If the procedure was done in the lower jaw, the tongue, teeth, lip, and surrounding tissue will be numb or asleep. If it was done in the upper jaw, the lip and surrounding tissue will be numb or asleep.

Children often don't understand the effects of local anesthesia and might chew, scratch, suck, or play with the numb lip, tongue or cheek. These reactions can cause minor irritation or they can be severe enough to cause swelling and abrasions to the tissue.

Monitor your child closely for about two hours following the appointment, and keep your child on a liquid or soft diet until the anesthetic has worn off. Please do not hesitate to call our office with any questions.