

CT Children's CLASP Guideline

Sedation

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your interest in sedation at Connecticut Children's. The sedation service was created to assist children with the many tests or procedures at the hospital which are uncomfortable, painful, or simply require a child to remain absolutely still.

This service utilizes the most current sedation techniques, provided by our team of specially trained sedation providers, nurses, and child life specialists. Our goal is to help ease the discomfort of these procedures or diagnostic tests.

Prior to sedation, an evaluation will be performed and the appropriate level of assistance that will best match the patient needs with the procedure or test being performed will be identified. For some children, this may just be simple distraction with Child Life while others may require a deeper level of sedation. Some children whom are referred to us may not need sedation; however, if you have doubts we would like you to refer the child to the sedation service.

Rationale for sedation consultation:

What we want to avoid is a child who arrives for a procedure that is unable to be performed due to unrecognized need for sedation and/or inadequate preparation for sedation.

INITIAL EVALUATION AND MANAGEMENT

WHAT PROCEDURES?

- The sedation service offers sedation for a variety of procedures at CCMC
- Eligible procedures include:
 - Procedures for which the operating room (OR) is not required
 - Procedures not longer than 2 hours in duration
 - Procedures that can be accomplished with sedation and do not require general anesthesia or an artificial airway.
- The most common procedures include:
 - Radiology exams, hearing screens, spinal taps, lab draws, vaccines, lab draws, and joint injections
 - Please note: all MRI's are scheduled with anesthesia (and will need a pre-op form)

WHO DO WE SEDATE?

Patients eligible for sedation:

- Over 2 months old
- Patients that have passed a full medical screening of their past history by our team.

Patients excluded from sedation:

REFER TO ANESTHESIA

- Apnea
- Morbid obesity
- Airway or facial anomalies
- Complex congenital heart disease

WHEN TO REFER

- Please refer any patient for whom a procedure is required and for whom your evaluation suggests the need for sedation.
- Consider their anxiety, past experiences, developmental or behavioral disorders or invasive exams.

HOW TO REFER

- Sedation referrals available through **CT Children's One Call Access Center**
Phone: 833.733.7669 **Fax:** 833.226.2329
 - For more information on how to place referrals to Connecticut Children's, click [here](#).
- Additional information and the forms referenced below can be found on the Sedation Services website under Additional Resources: [Sedation Services | Connecticut Children's](#)
- Please order the test or procedure as you routinely do and request sedation services be consulted by completing the Sedation Services Request Form
- Complete the Screening Form (form found on website) and fax it to the number on the form. Please attach additional information for any complex medical patients.
- If the sedation request is for vaccinations or labs, the sedation staff will request additional information from your office
- Please call 860.837.6345 with any questions
- Your office will be contacted when the screening is reviewed and the appointment is scheduled. The process should be completed within 2 business days.

WHAT TO EXPECT

What to expect from CT Children's Visit:

- You can expect the highest quality and compassionate care for the patient and their family.
- If there are medical concerns with the screening, our team may contact the family or your office to further discuss the best approach.