



After Use of Local Anesthetics

- If your child has been given an injection of local anesthetic to numb his/her teeth in order for us to work on them. Your child's mouth (tooth, lip & tongue) will be sleeping for **approximately 2-3 hours**. **It is important that you watch your child during that time, so he/she does not scratch, bite or chew on the cheek, lips or tongue during this time.**
- Your child should have his/her **diet limited to soft foods for 2-3 hours** following administration of local anesthetics to prevent biting the lip or tongue while numb. The following foods are acceptable: milkshake, ice cream, pudding, jello, soup, mashed potatoes, noodle, yogurt or any other foods of this consistency.
- Some children become very upset (even crying hysterically) and complain of excruciating pain when they realize their mouth feels "different."
- Please do not be alarmed! Many children are unfamiliar with this numb sensation and associate this with pain. Reassure your child that the "funny feeling" will go away in a couple of hours!

