



# PANTHER *Pediatric Dentistry*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF REFERRAL FOR IN-OFFICE DENTAL SURGERY

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parent/Guardian of \_\_\_\_\_:

Thank you for bringing your child to Panther Pediatric Dentistry. Based on your Panther Cub's age, dental treatment needs, behavior, and/or other medical considerations, Dr. Cunningham, Kari A. decided that your child's dental needs would best be completed while they are under general anesthesia. Panther Pediatric Dentistry has partnered with OFFOR Health/SmileMD, a mobile anesthesia group, to provide complete dental care to children under general anesthesia in our office. Our initial assessment shows your child may qualify for this in-office service.

**YOUR CHILD'S SURGERY IS SCHEDULED FOR:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please understand that this date is subject to change based on availability of the anesthesia group, the follow-up health assessment of your child, and/or approval by the insurance provider. If there is any change to the schedule, you will be notified as soon as possible at the number provided on completed paperwork.

### HEALTH CLEARANCE

**OFFOR Health/SmileMD will call you to discuss your child's health history. If you have not heard from them and the procedure is 2 weeks away, please call them at 877-789-8583.** They may request to contact your pediatrician to get information needed to provide medical clearance for your child to be placed under general anesthesia for their dental work. If OFFOR Health/SmileMD feels your child does not meet the health criteria for their services, you will be notified and Panther Pediatric Dentistry will give you information for other pediatric dental sedation providers. If you do not connect with OFFOR Health/SmileMD via phone, the case may be canceled. The sooner your child is medically cleared, the better chance of being able to be moved up to an earlier surgery date should one become available.

### TIME OF SURGERY DATE INFORMATION

Our surgery coordinator will contact you the week of the surgical procedure with an ARRIVAL TIME for the procedure. Please note that there will be a pre-operative assessment with the medical team before the procedure as well as recovery time following the procedure. Your arrival time will be between 6:30a and 12:30p on the day of surgery and you can plan to be at our office for 4-6 hours for your child's dental surgery.

Due to limited availability of the anesthesia group to provide in-office sedation for our patients, no-shows, arriving more than 10 minutes after your scheduled arrival time, or appointments canceled with less than a 72-hour notice, may not be rescheduled at Panther Pediatric Dentistry with OFFOR Health/SmileMD and may be referred to another pediatric dental sedation provider.

### NO EATING AND DRINKING BEFORE GENERAL ANESTHESIA

Your child should have NOTHING to eat or drink after midnight the night before surgery, regardless of the time you are expected to arrive. This rule must be followed and is meant to protect your child. If food or drink are on the stomach while receiving general anesthesia, your child could vomit and damage their lungs – a serious medical condition. Violation of this rule may result in cancelation of the procedure and referral to another pediatric dental anesthesia sedation provider. NO WATER, NO FOOD, NO GUM. Due to the limited availability of OFFOR Health/SmileMD to PPD, if this rule is violated and your child eats/drinks before surgery, we cannot guarantee that the case will be rescheduled.

## **PARENT/GUARDIAN MUST BE PRESENT ON DAY OF SURGERY**

On the day of surgery, the parent/legal guardian MUST be present with the child to sign the necessary paperwork and must remain in the office during the procedure. If the parent/guardian is not present, the surgery will be canceled and the patient may be referred to another pediatric dental sedation provider.

## **ILLNESS ON THE DAY OF SURGERY**

Report any changes in medical status before or on the day of surgery, including cold, flu, cough, fever, wheezing, and newly diagnosed allergies. Please do not bring your child to the office if they are ill. If they are sick, test positive for COVID-19, or have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, the appointment may be rescheduled for 6-8 weeks later to ensure adequate time to heal from the illness. If your child uses an inhaler, you MUST BRING THE INHALER with you to the dental surgery appointment.

## **TREATMENT PLAN**

Your child's treatment plan may include multiple complex restorations (fillings, silver crowns, baby root canals, white crowns, etc.) or surgical procedures (extractions, draining of infection, etc.). It is important to follow through with comprehensive care as untreated dental decay only gets worse over time. This treatment plan is subject to change based on the clinical presentation of teeth once treatment begins and cannot always be determined only from the x-rays taken.

## **FINANCIAL POLICY FOR PATIENTS WHO ARE SELF-PAY/FEE FOR SERVICE**

For patients who are self-pay/fee for service, once medical clearance has been received from our anesthesia provider, 100% of the balance from the planned procedures is due no less than 2 weeks before the scheduled procedure. **Once treatment is completed, any differences in money owed will be collected on the day services are rendered.** Any refunds will be sent to the address the office has on file for the patient. Please keep in mind that our anesthesia partner has fees associated with their services that will be due to them based on their payment arrangement.

## **MISSED APPOINTMENT POLICY**

If the parent/guardian is unable to be reached by Panther Pediatric Dentistry or OFFOR Health/SmileMD to confirm the appointment, give pre-operative instructions, or to receive medical clearance, a child's opportunity to receive oral rehabilitation services in-office could be placed in jeopardy. Given the limited time we have with OFFOR Health/SmileMD and the volume of patients who require their services, families who miss the surgery appointment may be dismissed from the practice as a whole and referred to another provider for comprehensive care.

**AT THIS TIME, WE ARE UNABLE TO PROVIDE IN-OFFICE ORAL REHABILITATION UNDER GENERAL ANESTHESIA SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH PRIVATE INSURANCE. WE WILL PROVIDE A REFERRAL FOR THESE SERVICES.**

Thank you for working with us to help your Cub SMILE with Panther Pride!!