



Anesthesia For Children & Adults

## Why does my child need anesthesia?

Young children are often unable to manage the sound of drilling, the fear of pain, and separation from parents when they go to a dentist's office. At times, sedation may be used in older children with an oral sedative in combination with inhaled nitrous oxide, "laughing gas", but for many children it is better and safer to have general anesthesia.



General anesthesia means that your child is asleep, requiring the skills of a residency trained dentist anesthesiologist.

Many parents have a fear of anesthesia — often believing that it can increase problems for the child; however, studies and experience have shown that care given by a dentist anesthesiologist decreases the risk to your child.

Bay Area Anesthesia/Dr Thomas E. Lenhart comes to your dentist's office to provide this anesthesia service. We can minimize fears and ensure that anxious children will cooperate and allow the dentist to complete their dental care safely and efficiently.

There was a time when anesthesia was only administered in hospitals, but with today's ultra-compact anesthesia and monitoring equipment, we create a safe and convenient surgery center setting for your child's dental sedation.

By having the procedure in the dental office, parents can avoid the inconvenience and expense of a hospital visit and children can experience minimal or no awareness of the dental procedure. Bay Area Anesthesia/Dr. Thomas E. Lenhart meets all state & federal regulations, requirements and standards of care for providing anesthesia services in the dental office, surgery center and hospital.

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DR. THOMAS E. LENHART



Experience,  
Safety and Care.



Anesthesia For Children & Adults

*Anesthesia Care for Children  
in your Dental Office*

www.BayAreaAnesthesia.com



## What does an anesthesiologist do?

Just as there are doctors who specialize in different aspects of a child's care such as pediatricians and pediatric dentists, there are doctors called dentist anesthesiologists with advanced training in the anesthetic care of children. Their task is to provide safe, optimal conditions during surgery and other painful procedures, and to make the entire experience as pleasant and comfortable as possible.

Children's medical/dental care requires an approach geared toward their unique physical, emotional, and developmental differences. The procedures we use for children are safe and in keeping with our philosophy to provide quality health care to individual patients and their families. Because we regularly care for infants to adolescents, we extend this safety to the youngest of patients.



## Easing your child's fears.

As a parent, you play a key role in your child's care. Naturally fearing the unknown, you can help to relieve your child's anxiety by talking to them about their upcoming dental visit. Children tolerate anesthesia better when they are well prepared; therefore, it is important that you begin preparing your child for the procedure as soon as your appointment is scheduled.



Prior to your child's anesthesia, Dr. Thomas E. Lenhart will answer any questions you may have about their anesthesia care. Once you know what will happen, you will gain confidence and be better able to talk calmly and honestly with your child about their procedure. Also, your composure as a parent is essential. Nothing calms a child more than a confident parent. Making your child's experience as pleasant as possible is our mission.

## Helpful Tips... Let your child know that:

- After the procedure there may be some discomfort & dizziness.
- They will be with friendly & nice doctors and assistants.
- They can bring a favorite toy, or other comforting object.
- You will be there until they go to sleep, and when they awaken.

## The Day of Surgery

The day before the procedure, the anesthesiologist will contact you in order to review your child's medical conditions, review the eating and drinking instructions, and discuss the details of his or her personalized anesthesia plan including their recovery and post operative at home instructions. At this time, your input concerning your child's care is helpful and appreciated.

On the day of the procedure, the anesthesiologist will meet with you and your child in the waiting room of your dentist's office to answer any additional questions regarding your child's anesthetic procedure, as well as perform a limited physical exam. After the initial meeting, the anesthesiologist will administer a sedative to your child prior to entering the treatment room. The sedative will allow the anesthesiologist to transport your child into the treatment room without them having any fear, anxiety or memory of being separated from their parent(s).

## Anesthesia Safety & Monitoring

Anesthesiologists consider any sedation given to your child to be of major importance. Constantly on guard for changes in breathing, heart action, blood pressure or other events, which although rare, may occur during a procedure, Dr Thomas E. Lenhart will continuously be with your child from the time they go to sleep until the time they are awake.

Apart from assuring the optimal safety of your child during surgery, Dr. Lenhart is specially trained in how to make the procedure as comfortable as possible for your child. His thorough understanding of how children perceive these procedures, and as an anesthesia provider for more than 18 years, Dr. Lenhart will work with your dentist to improve the quality of your child's experience and follow all anesthesia standards of care.

State-of-the-art monitoring is used to ensure your child is asleep, comfortable, safe and free of discomfort throughout the entire procedure until fully awake.

All children undergoing anesthesia will have the following monitors:

- Electrocardiograph
- Blood pressure cuff
- Pulse Oximeter
- Temperature monitor
- Respiratory Thoracic Impedance and/or Capnography



## Who will administer my child's anesthesia?

Dr. Thomas E. Lenhart is the Dentist Anesthesiologist who will be providing the highest quality of care & safety for your child. He completed his post-doctoral anesthesia residency program at Loma Linda University School of Dentistry, Medical Center & Affiliate Hospitals. Dr. Lenhart has over 18 years

of extensive experience with children of all ages undergoing anesthesia, and is a Diplomate of the American Dental Board of Anesthesiology - "Board Certified". Dr. Lenhart is a Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of California, San Francisco, School of Dentistry and on staff at several Ambulatory Surgery Centers.

Dr. Lenhart will personally perform all aspects of the anesthetic, and your child will remain under his direct, constant supervision. Committed to each child in his care, his skill and judgment has been refined over years of hospital, surgery center and office based anesthesia during complex medical & dental operations, and you can take comfort in that your child will be safe in his hands. Dr. Lenhart will remain involved in the care of your child until they are allowed to go home. You will be provided with his contact number for the evening of the procedure so that you can, if needed, speak with him.



Today's advanced technology & monitors have increased the safety of anesthesia care for children significantly.

## Cost Savings:

Anesthesia Services in the dental office will save you thousands of dollars compared to what you will pay to have the same procedure done at the hospital and/or surgery center.

Please visit our website or call us so that we may answer any questions you might have regarding our anesthesia services.