



# Cody Dental Group *Established 1946*

## **PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY INFORMED CONSENT for PATIENT MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES**

It is our intent that all professional care delivered in our dental operatories shall be of the best possible quality we can provide for each child. Providing a high quality of care can sometimes be made very difficult, or even impossible, due to the lack of cooperation of some child patients. Among the behaviors that can interfere with the proper provision of quality dental care are: hyperactivity, resistive movements, refusing to open the mouth or keep it open long enough to perform the necessary dental treatments, and even aggressive or physical resistance to treatment, such as kicking, screaming and grabbing the dentist's hands or the sharp dental instruments.

All efforts will be made to obtain the cooperation of child dental patients by the use of warmth, friendliness, persuasion, humor, charm, gentleness, kindness, and understanding.

There are several behavior management techniques that are used by pediatric dentists to gain the cooperation of child patients to eliminate disruptive behavior or prevent patients from causing injury to themselves or Doctor/her staff due to uncontrollable movements. The behavior management techniques are as follows:

- 1. Tell-Show-Do:** The dentist or assistant explains to the child what is to be done using simple terminology and repetition and then shows the child what is to be done by demonstrating with instruments on a model or the child's or dentist's finger. Then the procedure is performed in the child's mouth as described. Praise is used to reinforce cooperative behavior.
- 2. Positive reinforcement:** This technique rewards the child who displays any behavior which is desirable. Rewards include compliments, praise, a pat on the back, a hug or a prize.
- 3. Voice Control:** The attention of a disruptive child is gained by changing the tone or increasing the volume of the dentist's voice. The content of the conversation is less important than the abrupt or sudden nature or the command.
- 4. Mouth props:** A rubber or plastic device is placed in the child's mouth to prevent closing when the child refuses or has difficulty maintaining an open mouth.
- 5. Physical restraint by the assistant:** The assistant restrains the child from movement by holding the child's hands stabilizing the head, and/or controlling leg movements.
- 6. General Anesthesia:** The dentist performs the dental treatment with the child anesthetized in the hospital operating room. Your child will not be given general anesthesia without your being further informed and obtaining your specific consent for such procedure.

**I hereby authorize Dr Watana and her assistants to work on my child and to utilize the behavior management techniques that she deems appropriate. I hereby acknowledge that I have read and understand the informed consent and financial policies listed above.**

**Patient's Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_