



## Patient Referral Criteria for Sedation

Ensure that the patient meets the criteria for sedation and is medically fit for treatment under sedation.

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### General Criteria

Patients may be eligible for sedation if they fall into the following categories:

- **Anxious** or **phobic** patients who struggle with routine dental treatment.
- Patients **undergoing complex, unpleasant or lengthy dental procedures** who would benefit from sedation.
- Patients who have difficulty tolerating dental treatment due to a **strong gag reflex**.
- Patients who have **difficulty achieving adequate local anaesthesia**.
- Some patients with special care needs who find it challenging receiving dental treatment such as those with **poor cooperation** or **involuntary movement disorders**.

## Medical Criteria

A thorough medical history assessment is required before sedation. Patients must disclose any medical conditions, medications, or allergies.

1 - **Blood Pressure** should be under control, with or without medication.

2 - **BMI** of under 40 (see *BMI calculator*:

<https://www.nhs.uk/health-assessment-tools/calculate-your-body-mass-index/> )

3 - **ASA Class I or II.**

### ASA Classification Chart

Class	Description	Examples of Conditions
ASA I	A normal, healthy patient with no systemic disease	No significant medical history Non-smoker, minimal alcohol use
ASA II	A patient with mild systemic disease that does not limit daily activities	Well-controlled conditions such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hypertension</li> <li>• Mild asthma</li> <li>• Diabetes (Type 2)</li> <li>• Smoker without significant lung disease</li> <li>• Mild obesity (BMI 30-39)</li> </ul>
ASA III	A patient with severe systemic disease that limits daily activity but is not incapacitating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poorly controlled hypertension or diabetes</li> <li>• COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)</li> <li>• Obesity (BMI <math>\geq</math> 40)</li> <li>• History of heart attack or stroke (&gt;3 months ago)</li> <li>• Chronic kidney disease with mild-moderate impairment</li> </ul>
ASA IV	A patient with severe systemic disease that is a constant threat to life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unstable angina</li> <li>• Ongoing cardiac failure</li> <li>• Severe COPD requiring oxygen therapy</li> <li>• Recent heart attack or stroke (&lt;3 months ago)</li> <li>• Advanced kidney disease requiring dialysis</li> </ul>
ASA V	A moribund patient not expected to survive without the operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multi-organ failure</li> <li>• Severe trauma with major bleeding</li> <li>• Septic shock</li> <li>• End-stage heart, lung, or liver failure</li> </ul>
ASA VI	A brain-dead patient undergoing organ donation	Declared brain-dead, maintained on life support for organ retrieval



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