

# INVASIVE VS. NON- INVASIVE

Once tooth decay/cavities are seen, there are two options:

- Topical Treatments
  - Goal: To slow down the progression
  - Method:
    - **Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF)**
- Restorations
  - Goal: To remove decay/bacteria and repair the tooth
  - Methods:
    - **Nitrous Oxide (Laughing Gas)**
    - **Oral Conscious Sedation**
    - **General Anesthesia**



## QUESTIONS?

We want you to feel 100% confident in your decision. Please feel free to call or e-mail us at any time with your questions!



### CONTACT US:

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Once Upon A Smile  
Pediatric Dentistry



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## TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR YOUR CHILD



## NITROUS OXIDE "LAUGHING GAS"

### Pros:

- Used in-office with a soft scented nose
- Helps child relax for procedure + with gag reflex
- Minimal sedation
- All nitrous oxide is out of the child's system before leaving the office

### Items to Consider:

- Child is not asleep
- Requires multiple appointments
- Not recommended for very fearful children or children who need multiple visits to complete dental work
- Local anesthetic still necessary
- Only effective if children are able to breathe well through their nose



## ORAL CONSCIOUS SEDATION (OCS)

### Pros:

- "Juice" with medicine is given to child to drink as they wait with you in the waiting room
- Child becomes drowsy, relaxed and usually does not remember dental appointment
- Able to complete treatment in 2 visits

### Items to Consider:

- Child is not asleep
- Mild to moderate sedation
- Patient comes to operatory alone, parents wait in waiting room
- Protective stabilization used for safety of child--they are bundled like a burrito
- Child is monitored with BP and oxygenation machine
- Medication effects (drowsiness, rapidly changing emotions) takes 4-8 hours to wear off
- Not recommended for all children (those with large tonsils, asthma/medical conditions, or over 40 lbs)
- Medical clearance required
- Nitrous oxide and local anesthetic still used
- \$515 sedation fee per appointment

## GENERAL ANESTHESIA (GA)

### Pros:

- Child is put to sleep by a pediatric anesthesiologist and seen in a controlled hospital setting
- All treatment completed in one visit
- Great option for patients with extensive treatment needs, young patients, and very fearful patients
- X-rays are taken day of and treatment plans may change based on new findings that day

### Items to Consider:

- Medical and dental insurance are used for this service
- Medical clearance required
- \$515 surgical fee

