

Report of the Intercollegiate Advisory Committee for Sedation in Dentistry

Standards for Conscious Sedation in the Provision of Dental Care

FAQs (Revised 4/12/2015)

	Topic	Question	Answer	IACSD Page
1	Rationale for IACSD	Why were the new IACSD standards necessary?	The new standards respond to changes in sedation practice and in the requirements for education, training and its validation. There was also an appreciation that common standards needed to be applied to the use of conscious sedation by everyone in the healthcare team - dentists, doctors, nurses and other DCPs. The new standards were agreed by a wide range of organisations including the Dental Faculties of the surgical Royal Colleges, the Royal College of Anaesthetists and specialist societies.	6
2	Implementation date	When do the new standards become effective?	From the date of publication of the report on 22 April 2015.	
3	Experienced sedation practitioner	I am an experienced provider of conscious sedation. Do I need to re-train or undertake a postgraduate certificate or diploma in conscious sedation?	Experienced sedation practitioners are covered by the Transitional Arrangements but you must comply with the standards in all other sections of the report. A postgraduate sedation qualification is not mandatory.	87
4	Accredited course providers	Must all sedation courses now be accredited?	All courses intended for practitioners who wish to undertake training in a sedation technique that leads to independent clinical practice must now include supervised clinical training and have external validation. UK university-based courses and those run by Postgraduate Deaneries are compliant. Other courses which lead to independent practice, including those run by private providers, must be accredited by IACSD. CPD and 'update' courses offering only knowledge and skills training do not need external accreditation.	21, 26

5	Applying for accreditation	How do I apply for course accreditation?	You should contact Neil Sutcliffe at FDS RCS Eng (nsutcliffe@rcseng.ac.uk) for information about the accreditation process, including when the first applications will be accepted.	86
6	Already enrolled on a training course	I enrolled on a training course prior to April 22 and I am currently completing my mentored cases. Will I be compliant with the new guidelines?	Yes, you are compliant with the spirit of the IACSD standards. When you have completed your training you will then be covered by the Transitional Arrangements.	87
7	SAAD/DSTG Mentoring	I have been on the DSTG list of mentors for many years and have successfully mentored a number of dentists learning to use conscious sedation. Must I now stop doing this?	The Accreditation Sub-Committee of IACSD is currently considering how suitably trained and experienced mentors might contribute to clinical training in sedation.	
8	DCT2s using conscious sedation	Does sedation carried out as part of DCT2 training satisfy the requirements for conscious sedation training?	Training provided by a Deanery or a University does not need to be accredited, but to reach the level of independent practice, the training provided should follow the standards as set out in the IACSD Report. All sedation experience will be useful and should be recorded in your clinical logbook.	86
9	DF3s using sedation	May new DF3's provide IV and inhalational sedation under appropriate supervision?	Yes, they may. However this will not allow them to undertake independent clinical practice using these techniques once DF3 is completed, unless the DF3 training programme meets the requirements set out in the IACSD standards.	86
10	Low-level sedation activity	I have over 25 years of experience using IVS but now carry out less than one case per month. Should I continue?	This is a matter for you to decide, perhaps in consultation with your professional indemnity organisation. As an experienced practitioner you are covered by the Transitional Arrangements but carrying out only one case per month may not be considered sufficient for maintaining competence. You should also consider the IACSD CPD requirements.	3, 21, 86, 87
11	GMP without sedation training	I am intending to employ a GMP colleague to provide sedation in my practice – must he undertake training in dental sedation?	Yes, the new guidance applies to doctors and dentists. Your colleague must acquire knowledge, skills and supervised clinical experience before providing sedation in your practice. Training opportunities are currently more limited for doctors than dentists.	6
12	Dental Nurse Training	What training does the 'second appropriate person' now require?	Dental Nurses must be trained and experienced but, like dentists, are covered by the Transitional Arrangements. The NEBDN Certificate in	87, 21, 29

			Conscious Sedation Nursing is highly recommended but not mandatory.	
13	Dental nurses assisting IS only	Is it possible to gain a qualification in dental nursing for IS alone?	We understand that NEBDN is considering offering this but do not know the timescale. You should contact either NEBDN or your local Dental Deanery for availability of courses.	
14	Certificate in Dental Sedation Nursing	When will registered Dental Nurses be obliged to have the NEBDN Certificate in Dental Sedation Nursing?	There are no plans to make this qualification compulsory. However, all Dental Nurses should be encouraged to work towards it.	21, 29
15	How many nurses?	I have two dental nurses. Does the chairside nurse need to be sedation-trained?	No, as long the sedation-trained nurse is appropriately trained and experienced and remains in the surgery throughout the procedure. However, it might offer greater flexibility if both nurses were sedation-trained.	
16	Life support training	What level of life support training does the sedation team need?	Practitioners must be able to provide age-appropriate immediate life support as defined by the main elements of the Resuscitation Council (UK) ILS and PILS training programmes. It is not essential to undertake a Resuscitation Council (UK) accredited ILS/PILS course. Alternative courses with equivalent content which are adapted to the needs of dental practice are acceptable: these might also include the management of common sedation, medical and dental emergencies.	26, 28
17	Life support training	Can I continue to provide IS whilst waiting to attend an immediate life support course?	All dentists should have current immediate life support skills. You should contact your professional indemnity organisation for advice.	
18	'Facility equivalent to an NHS Acute Trust in England'	How can I demonstrate that my practice facilities are equivalent to those of an 'NHS Acute Trust in England' (Options for Care, page 9)?	You should discuss this matter with the CCG and your professional indemnity organisation. You would need to provide evidence to support your assertions. This might involve external experts and an inspection of your practice. It is likely that the inspectors would be keen to establish that you have 'hospital standard' resuscitation skills and facilities. The SAAD Safe Sedation Practice Scheme may be helpful (www.saad.org.uk)	9,13
19	SAAD Safe Sedation Practice Scheme	How can I find out more about the SAAD Safe Sedation Practice Scheme?	You should contact the Executive Secretary at SAAD at www.saad.org.uk	13
20	'Skills equivalent to those expected of a specialist/consultant	How can I show that I have 'skills equivalent to those expected of a specialist/consultant in paediatric	You should discuss this matter with the CCG and your professional indemnity organisation. You would need to provide evidence to support your assertion that you possess skills equivalent to those expected of a	9, 13, 26, 36-84

	in paediatric dentistry and a consultant in anaesthesia competent in sedation for dentistry'	dentistry' or 'a consultant in anaesthesia competent in sedation for dentistry' (Options for Care, page 8)?	specialist/consultant in paediatric dentistry or a consultant in anaesthesia who is competent in dental sedation. This might involve external experts and perhaps also an inspection of your practice. The syllabuses in Appendix 1 define the knowledge and skills required of the whole team for a variety of techniques and age groups. The minimum number of supervised cases required for independent practice are shown in Table 1.	
21	Providing sedation at another practice	I have been asked to provide IVS at another dental practice. I have many years of experience but no formal qualification in sedation. Is this permitted?	Yes, you are covered by the 'Transitional Arrangements' but you must comply with all other sections of the IACSD document.	87
22	Dental Therapists and Hygienists using IS	May a Dental Therapist or Hygienist provide inhalational sedation without a dentist being on the premises?	Yes, as long as the Dental Therapist or Hygienist is supported by an appropriately trained and experienced Dental Nurse ('second appropriate person').	
23	NIBP monitoring for IVS	When should I take an adult patient's blood pressure during IVS?	NIBP should be performed before and after sedation and at 'appropriate intervals' during the procedure. The intervals are determined following individual patient assessment.	18, 26, 31
24	Capnography	Should I consider buying a capnograph for my IVS service?	Capnography is not currently recommended for routine use in fit dental patients. However, it detects hypoventilation sooner than pulse oximetry and so it is likely to become more widely used, especially for medically compromised patients.	28
25	Information leaflets	May I use the IACSD information leaflets in my practice?	Yes, you may use them unchanged as long as you acknowledge the Dental Faculties of the surgical Royal Colleges and the Royal College of Anaesthetists. The information leaflets are for guidance in good practice and if you wish to amend the leaflets for your local requirements, then they must not display the logo of any of the Royal Colleges.	32, 88-113