

Department of radiology

Information about your procedural sedation and analgesia

Procedural sedation and analgesia refers to a combination of medications (given via a cannula) that aim to help you stay relaxed and comfortable during your procedure. You will have an opportunity to discuss having sedation with the specialist nurse on the day of your procedure.

What is the difference between sedation and analgesia?

The sedation medication is designed to reduce any anxiety and may make you feel drowsy or less aware of what is happening during the test. The analgesia used is a strong painkiller and is used alongside the sedative to reduce any discomfort you might feel.

Is sedation the same as general anaesthesia?

Having sedation is different from having general anaesthesia and is associated with less risks and side effects. The sedation medication may make you feel drowsy and tired for the duration of the procedure, but you will still be awake enough to communicate with the team providing your care.

Do I need to have sedation and analgesia?

Depending on the type of procedure you are having you may require sedation and analgesia. In any case, you should prepare for the procedure as per the instructions given in this information sheet. You will have an opportunity to discuss sedation with the doctor and the sedation nurse before you have your procedure

Can I still take my medications as normal?

It is important to check your appointment letter and procedure specific information leaflet as to whether you need to stop taking any of your medications.

If you are still unsure, please call the department on: **0161 918 2346**.

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What do I need to do to prepare for sedation and analgesia?

- If you are booked for a sedated procedure you will need to have a capable adult to transport you home after discharge from hospital and to stay with you overnight.
- If you are having sedation and are booked for an early morning admission, you will need to stop any food or supplemental tube feed by midnight the night before. You can have water until 6.00am and nothing thereafter.
- If you are having sedation and are booked for an afternoon admission, you will need to stop any food or supplemental tube feed by 6.00am. You can have water until 11.00am and nothing thereafter.

Is there anything I can't do following sedation?

The effects of sedation may take some time to fully disappear, and it is common to feel tired for the rest of the day.

For 24 hours following sedation **you cannot** drive, drink alcohol or sign any legal documents.

If you need information in a different format, such as easy read, large print, BSL, braille, email, SMS text or other communication support, please tell your ward or clinic nurse.

The Christie is committed to producing high quality, evidence based information for patients. Our patient information adheres to the principles and quality statements of the Information Standard. If you would like to have details about the sources used please contact **the-christie.patient.information@nhs.net**

For information and advice visit the cancer information centres at Withington, Oldham, Salford or Macclesfield. Opening times can vary, please check before making a special journey.



Contact The Christie Hotline for
urgent support and specialist advice
The Christie Hotline: 0161 446 3658
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week