



WOMEN'S HEALTH  
*of Central Virginia*

## DENTAL CARE IN PREGNANCY

Many patients need dental care during pregnancy, and there is some concern about effects on the fetus.

The following are generally **safe** during any stage of pregnancy:

- \* Dental x-rays with lead shielding of the abdomen
- \* Local anesthesia
- \* Antibiotics such as Penicillin (including Augmentin), Cephalosporins, Azithromycin, and Erythromycin
- \* Other drugs, such as Valium and narcotics are safe if used only for a limited duration (1-5days)

The following should generally be **avoided** during pregnancy:

- \* Nitrous Oxide
- \* Antibiotics such as Doxycycline, Ciprofloxacin, Sulfonamides
- \* Epinephrine can potentially cause vasoconstriction of the placenta. However, it's used with local anesthesia can also reduced bleeding and intravascular absorption of the local anesthesia. **Use Epinephrine with caution.**

Please don't hesitate to call us with any questions. We appreciate the dental care our pregnant patients receive. Good dental health can actually improve pregnancy outcomes!

Sincerely,

Women's Health Services of Central Virginia, Inc.