

# Impact of Child Temperament and Parenting Styles on Sedation Outcomes

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## Background

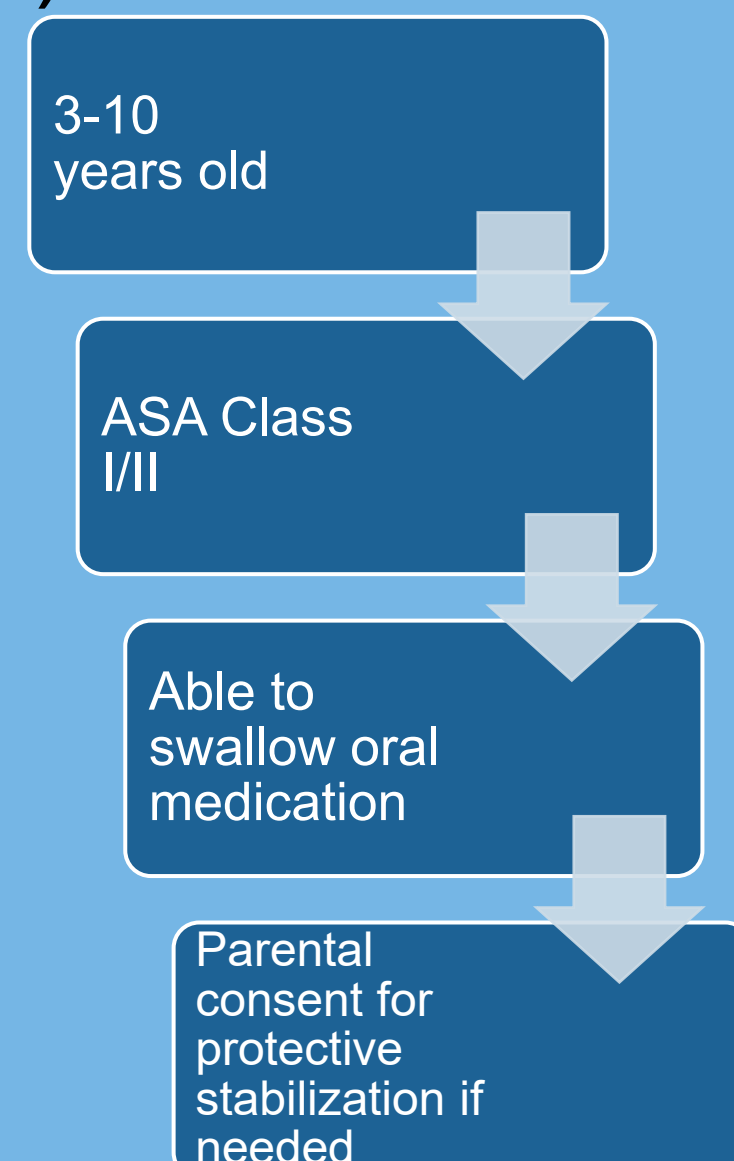
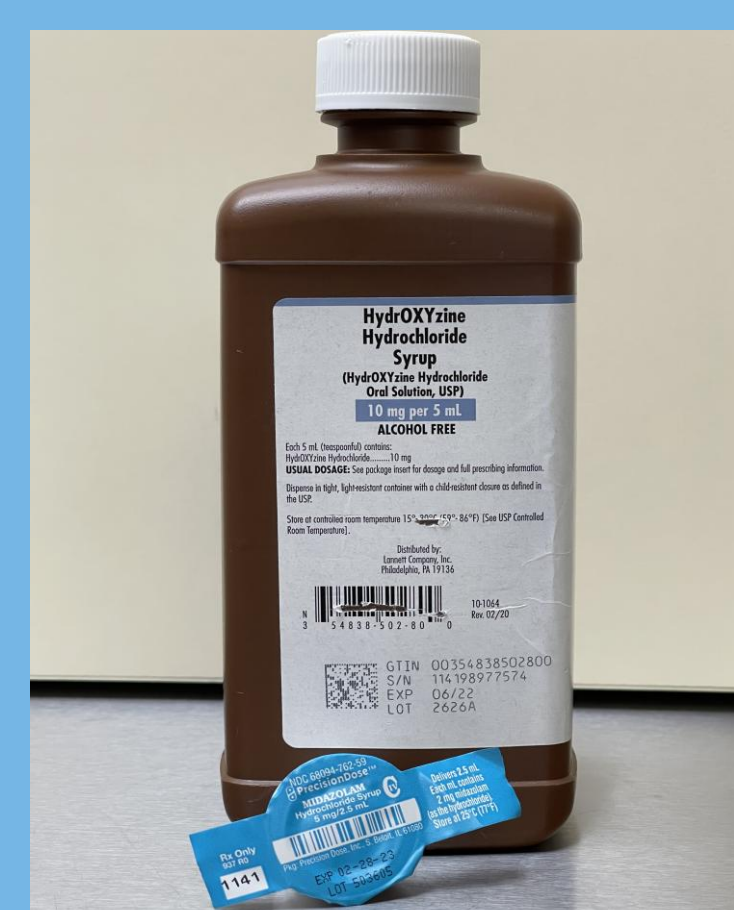
- Many children with early childhood caries (ECC) are pre-cooperative, making dental treatment challenging
- Oral sedation provides sedative and amnestic effects that reduce distress, fear, and anxiety
- Children’s temperament and parenting style may influence behavior in the dental setting and the success of oral sedation

## Aim

1. To establish if there is a correlation between children’s temperament in the pediatric patient and their acceptance of oral sedation.
2. To determine if parenting styles play a role in the success of oral sedation

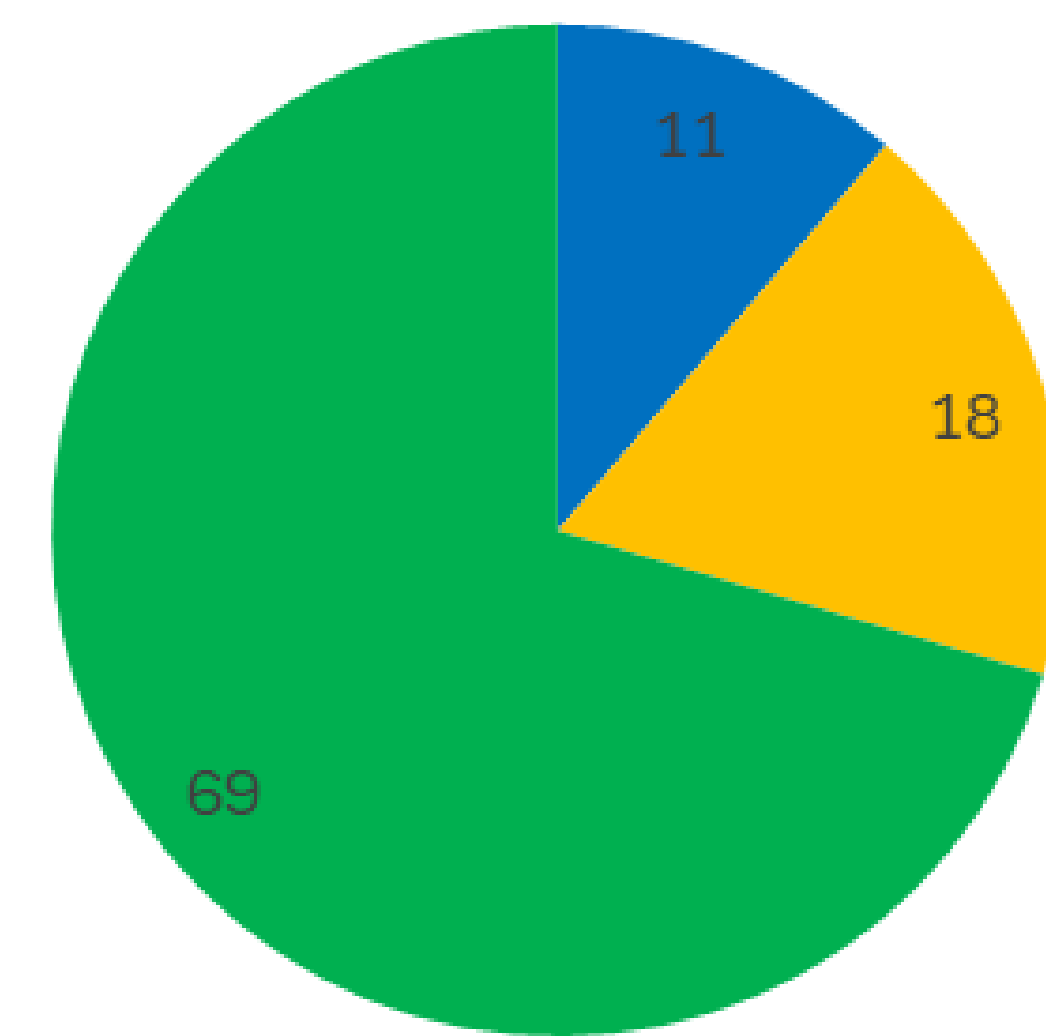
## Methods

- Patients of record at Geisinger Pediatric Dentistry enrolled for oral sedation
- On the day of sedation, parents completed two validated questionnaires:
  - Children’s Behavior Questionnaire–Very Short Form (CBQ-VSF)
  - Parenting Styles & Dimensions Questionnaire (PSDQ)



## Types of Children’s Temperament

Breakdown of Children's Temperament Style (n=98)



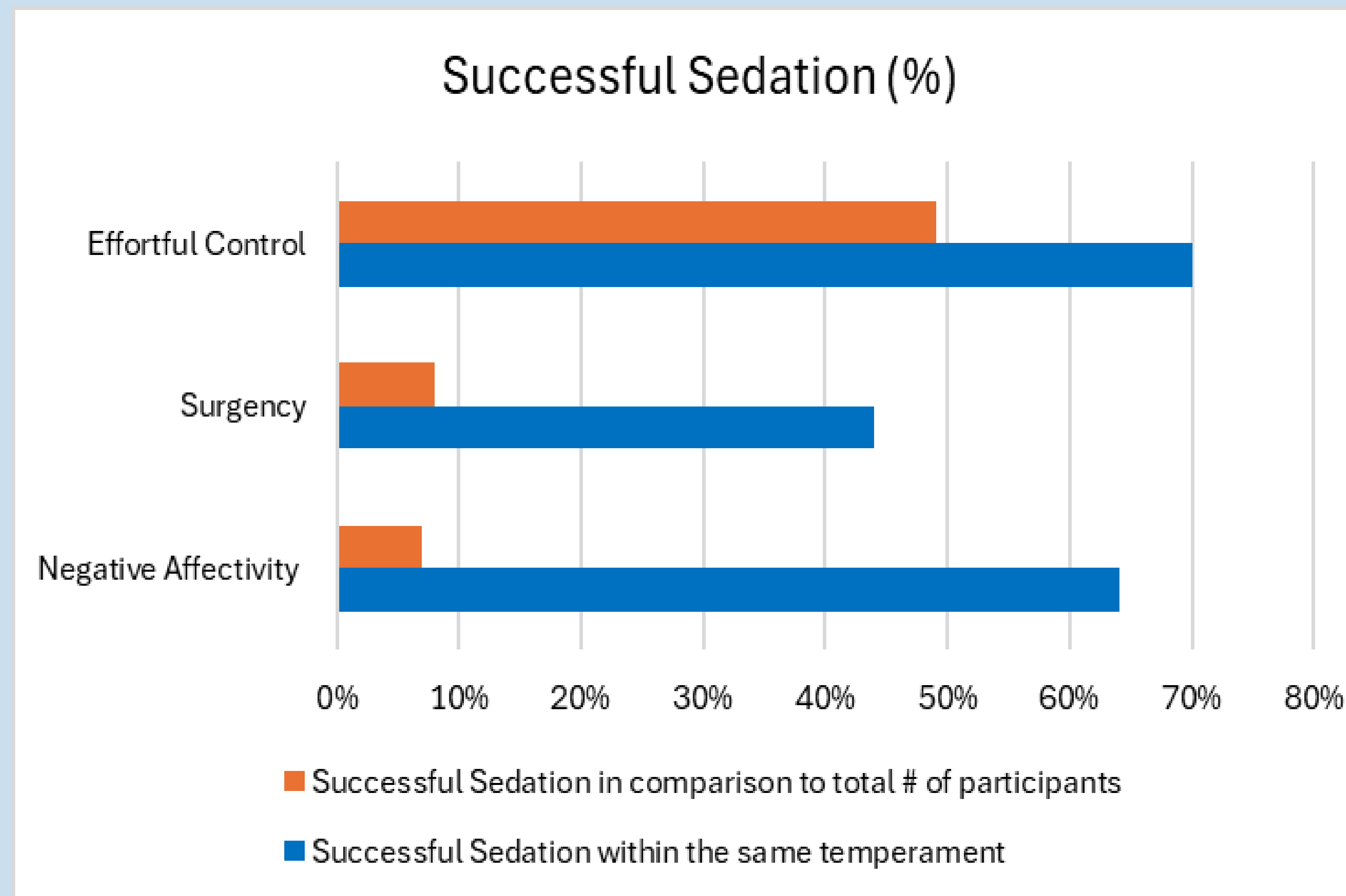
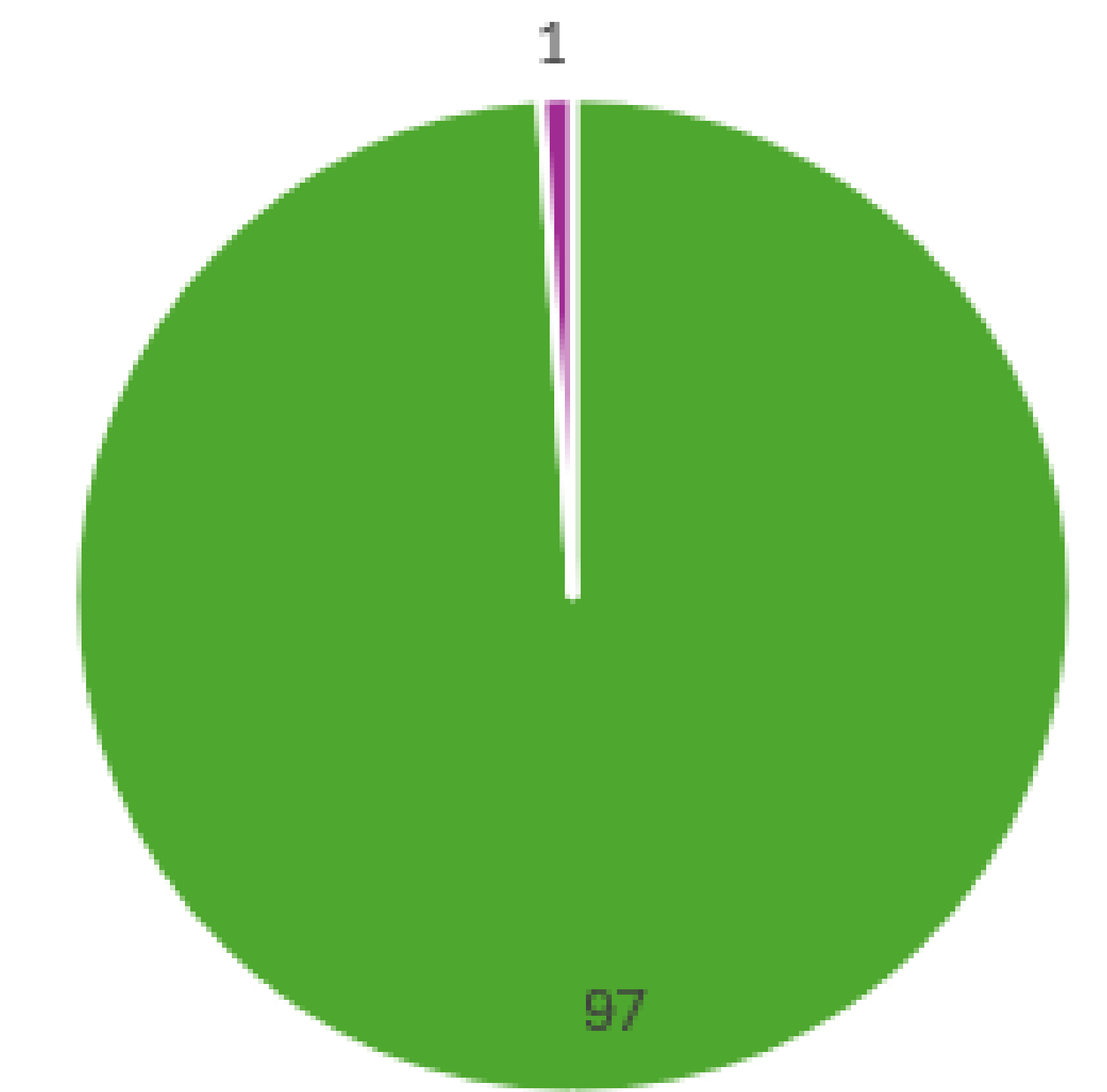
- Negative Affectivity:**
  - Experiences and expresses negative emotions including **frustration, fear, discomfort, and sadness**
- Extroversion/Surgency**
  - Expresses **impulsivity, high intensity pleasure** (situations with high stimulus and novelty), **low shyness**
  - Enjoys high activity level, smiling, and laughter
- Effortful Control**
  - Practices **willful control** of attention and behavior
  - Low stimulus induced pleasure
  - Able to suppress inappropriate responses under instructions in novel or uncertain situations
  - Expresses **attention focusing, inhibitory control, low intensity pleasure and perceptual sensitivity**

Participant's Gender	N	%	Parent's Gender	N	%
Male	49	50%	Male	17	17.3%
Female	49	50%	Female	81	82.7%
Temperament Style			Parent's Education		
Negative Affectivity	11	11.2%	Less than High School Diploma	3	3.1%
Extroversion/Surgency	18	18.4%	High School Degree	57	58.2%
Effortful Control	69	70.4%	Associate Degree	14	14.3%
Failure of Sedation			Bachelor Degree	14	14.3%
Male	18	51.4%	Graduate Degree	10	10.2%
Female	17	48.6%			

## Parenting Styles

Breakdown of Parenting Style (n=98)

- Authoritarian** (Yellow): Low Warmth, High Control
- Authoritative** (Green): High Warmth, High Control
- Permissive** (Purple): High Warmth, Low Control
- Neglectful** (Blue): Low Warmth, Low Control



	Age ≤ 6			Age > 6		
	Failure mean (SD)	Success mean (SD)	P-value	Failure mean (SD)	Success mean (SD)	P-Value
Inhibitory control	4.8 (1.3)	5.1 (1.19)	0.811	4.1 (1.32)	5.1 (0.98)	0.008

Table 2 Significant Temperament scores by oral sedation result, stratified by age groups

## Key Findings & Conclusion

- High inhibitory control scores predicted oral sedation success, especially in children >6 years
- Parenting style was not noted to be associated with sedation outcomes
  - Likely due to reporting bias from parents
- Temperament screening may improve preoperative planning prior to oral sedation