

Jim Du Molin: **Michael, I'm really impressed that you're going into the pediatric side of sedation. Do you know if that's going to be covered under the Obama healthcare plan?**

Dr. Michael Silverman: That's a wonderful question, Jim, and it's actually part of the whole business model of doing pediatric [sedation dentistry](#). At present, California is the lowest—or let me back up a second. Right now, there is government reimbursement for [pediatric dentistry](#), and California happens to be on the lowest end of the scale.

Jim: Well, we have no money left in this state.

Michael: So the state has a little bit, but the federal government has programs as well. The government does pay right now for these lower income families to have their dentistry done at the dental office. Dr. Sanger, in his demonstration of how the economics of pediatric [sedation dentistry](#) works, has shown that even dealing with the Medicare money that California pays, that a [dentist](#) can do very, very well – and in fact, do better than treating adult patients if they have all of the systems in a row.

I mean, everything – as you know, Jim – is a system and treating these children safely is a system. Once you get the word out there, you don't even have to advertise. Once they know that you're accepting this particular type of government reimbursement, the families bring the kids in, they bring them in their Sunday best clothes. They have a mouthful of 20 teeth with 20 cavities that all need to be restored, and you're able to handle that in the safest way while they're sedated.

So it's economically a real win-win. In addition, government reimbursement is there. I don't know – and I guess no one will know for another three or four years – whether the new healthcare reform will increase the pay in that area or not, but even as it stands right now, it still is an economically viable system.

Jim: That's great! That's exactly what I wanted to hear.

Julie Frey: Well, thanks for answering those questions, Dr. Silverman. Always a pleasure to speak with you.

Michael: Oh, it's my pleasure too, and I'll hang on for more questions.