



## Preparing for your Infant's Frenectomy

To prepare for your infant's evaluation and procedure we have listed information to help your visit go as smoothly as possible. Additional resources may be found on our website.

### What to Expect:

Before evaluation at our office we require evaluation with a lactation consultant and recommend seeking lactation help from an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (also known as an IBCLC). IBCLCs have undergone rigorous training and will help you develop feeding techniques that work for your family. Lactation consultants can help rule out problems that can be resolved without surgical intervention and prepare you for your infant's frenectomy. We also recommend scheduling a follow-up with your lactation consultant for the days following the procedure.

At your appointment we will review symptoms and discuss the commitment required for active wound management. We will complete a comprehensive evaluation of your child's mouth. Our evaluation will help determine if ties, also known as tethered oral tissues, are present and will reveal the severity of the attachment. If release is recommended, we are typically able to proceed with the procedure the same day.

For infants, general anesthesia is almost never needed and the procedure may be completed in our office. We administer acetaminophen (Tylenol), sugar water, and topical anesthetic for comfort. For most frenectomies we utilize a laser which vaporizes tissue and helps to limit bleeding.

### During the Procedure

Due to laser safety regulations, parents are not allowed in the treatment room during the procedure. Our team members will carry your baby to and from the room, and the approximate time away from you is about 5 minutes.

### Immediately Following the Procedure

Crying and fussing are common during and after the procedure. Some infants appear distressed by and uncomfortable with the numb feeling and may refuse to feed until it has worn off which is approximately 15min following placement.

You may breastfeed, bottle feed, or soothe your baby in any manner you would like following the procedure. You may stay as long as necessary.