Pediatric Tongue and Lip Ties: The Diagnosis and Treatment with Soft-Tissue Lasers

Robert Convissar, DDS, FAGD  
Martin Kaplan, DMD  
Joy Funston, RN, IBCLC

Date: Saturday, November 19, 2016  
Time: Registration/Check-in and Continental breakfast begins at 7:30 AM  
Program begins at 8:00 AM and hands-on session begins at 3:30 PM concluding at 6:00 PM  
Location: VCU School of Dentistry, Perkinson Bldg., Room 3121, 1101 E. Leigh St, Richmond, VA 23298  
CE Credits: Lecture - 6.50; Participation – 2.50  
Format: Lecture, Case Presentation, Question and Answer Session, Laboratory Session  

Registration Fees: Includes CE Program, continental breakfast, lunch and materials. Early registration ends Saturday, October 15th. Hands-on session limited to 30 participants.  
Lecture Only: Early Registration - $249; Regular Registration - $295  
Lecture & Hands-On: Early Registration - $449; Regular Registration - $495  
VCU School of Dentistry Discount Policy applies.

Registration is required – register online at go.vcu.edu/dentistryce

Description: In this course the concept of laser frenectomies, an increasingly popular method by which dentists and physicians can treat tongue-ties in their patients, will be introduced. Participants will receive an overview of best practices regarding tongue-tie assessment and treatment, and will participate in a hands-on workshop on how to remove tongue-ties through the use of soft-tissue lasers. As many as 5% of all babies born in the United States have tongue-ties significant enough to cause breastfeeding difficulties. This condition can cause a plethora of problems for both babies and their mothers. Babies with tongue-ties can be erroneously labeled and diagnosed with GI problems, when all that is needed is a simple 30-second frenectomy to release the tongue-tie, the result of which is to restore the baby's ability to efficiently feed.

Educational Objectives: Upon successful completion of the course, participants should be able to:  
- Understand infant sucking physiology and how tongue-tie impairs infant nursing.  
- Use evidence-based diagnostic criteria to screen babies for this condition.  
- Understand all of the consequences and benefits of using lasers to destroy tongue-ties.  
- Be able to perform tongue-tie releases on infants.
About the Speakers

Robert Convissar, D.D.S., F.A.G.D., obtained his dental degree from New York University College of Dentistry in 1980. Previously receiving his B.S. Cum Laude from Brooklyn College, C.U.N.Y in Biology. Dr. Convissar is a pioneer in the field of laser dentistry and one of the first dentists to incorporate lasers into general practice. He has over 26 years of experience with CO2, Nd.YAG, Diode and Erbium wavelengths. The author of over 15 peer reviewed papers and author/coauthor of 5 textbooks on laser dentistry, his latest textbook, Principles and Practice of Laser Dentistry, published in September of 2010 is the # 1 selling laser dentistry textbook in the world.

Dr. Convissar has presented over 300 laser seminars on all 5 continents. Dr. Convissar practices laser, cosmetic and restorative dentistry in New York. He also serves as Director of Laser Dentistry at New York Hospital Medical Center since 1992.

Martin Kaplan, DMD was born in Chelsea, MA. He completed his undergraduate degree at The University of Massachusetts and then attended Tufts University School of Dental Medicine. After earning his D.M.D. degree he completed a pediatric residency at Montefiore Hospital in New York. Dr. Kaplan practices exclusively in Stoughton, MA. He continues to take advanced training and recently gained masters' proficiency in Laser Dentistry. He is one of only a handful of pediatric laser dentists. He is a member of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, Massachusetts Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, American Dental Association, Massachusetts Dental Society, Academy of Sports Dentistry and Academy of Laser Dentistry. He is a pediatric dentist with 37 years of practice experience. He has been using multiple laser wavelengths in his practice since 2002. When not practicing dentistry he enjoys Karate and has attained the level of 4th degree black belt.

Joy Funston, RN, IBCLC, RLC currently is in private practice as an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant in Charlottesville VA, as the founder/CEO of Joyful Start LC. Joy became interested in the study of the benefits of breastfeeding starting when she breast-fed her son. The pure joy of the bond formed during that experience led her to time volunteering with a mothers' milk bank. Joy went on to successfully complete her IBCLC certification. She has more than 19 years as a registered lactation consultant, an IBCLC. Professionally, as an RN, she has worked within a university based intensive care setting for greater than 25 years, first in a pediatric unit & then in a neonatal unit. Joy has complimented her Western nursing training with a lifestyle of study in alternative medicine and holistic care. Included within her practice are professionals who offer meditation, nutritional counseling, yoga & massage as augmentations to Joy's IBCLC visits. Joy's strengths are her intuition, her healing touch, and the infectious passion she brings to her practice. She cites as resources a commitment to being present to both her clients & her colleagues, and her irrepressible curiosity.

Questions? For further information, please contact the Office of Continuing Education by telephone at 804.828.0869 or by e-mail at dentistryce@vcu.edu.

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