

The American Laser Study Club Presents

# Pediatric Tongue- and Lip-Ties and Laser Frenectomies



2-Day Hands-On Course - 16 CEUs

Friday and Saturday  
September 6-7, 2024  
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Courtyard Toronto Downtown  
475 Yonge St  
Toronto, ON M4Y 1X7, Canada

## Introduction:

Enhance your understanding of the issues of pediatric laser dentistry, including tongue-ties and lip-ties! As many as 5 percent of all babies born in the US have tongue-ties significant enough to cause breastfeeding difficulties. Affected babies often fail to thrive and can be erroneously labeled as "lazy nursers" or "stubborn feeders."

A good surgical laser for cutting soft tissue must be able to vaporize soft tissue, while at the same time efficiently coagulating surgical margins. Not all laser wavelengths are suitable to comply with both requirements. This course focuses on the practical aspects of soft tissue laser surgery and on the fundamental processes involved in the laser-tissue interaction; it helps attendees learn how deep the laser beam cuts and how deep the coagulation and hemostasis extend into the surgical margins. Our **hands-on participation lab** is designed to train attendees on what surgical lasers can do safely and efficiently.

## Clinical Curriculum:

- Background and significance of Tethered Oral Tissues (TOTS);
- Diagnosis of pediatric tongue- and lip-ties;
- Multi-disciplinary approach to treating pediatric tongue- and lip-ties;
- Lactation support for the breastfeeding tongue-tied dyad;
- Bodywork and alternative therapy for the tongue-tied baby;
- Setting expectations with families and patients;
- Current methods of clinical assessment, diagnosis and treatment of pediatric lingual and labial ties. Attendees will be able to:
  - o Describe infant sucking physiology and how tongue-ties impair infant suck;
  - o Appropriately use reliable diagnostic criteria to screen babies and children for this condition;
  - o Clearly express orthodontic-myofunctional connection;
  - o Discuss how the soft tissues of the orofacial complex may lead to malocclusion, TMD, headaches, and other problems; and
  - o List and define all consequences and benefits of using lasers to remove oral restrictions.

## Laser Curriculum:

The Laser Surgery and Safety Basic Knowledge Certification Curriculum for this Course has been developed by the American Laser Study Club (ALSC). The ALSC's curriculum overcomes the known limitations of many laser dentistry courses, and includes the detailed physics of soft tissue ablation and coagulation with laser and hot tip (non-laser) devices. Laser hands-on wet lab on tissue samples will include laser safety instructions, frenectomy simulations and other surgical laser procedure demonstrations. Laser instructions will be assisted by the guest speaker Peter Vitruk, PhD, MInstP, CPhys, a laser physicist who founded the American Laser Study Club and LightScapel Inc.



## Hands-On Participation Session:

**2 HOURS**

- Laser Safety
- Laser Surgical Technique Simulations
- Superficial Ablation
- Shallow Incisions
- Deep Incisions
- Practicing Surgical Techniques on a Pig Jaw

## Course Certificates:



Course participants, who successfully complete examination, will be awarded a **LASER SAFETY basic knowledge CERTIFICATE** from the Board of Laser Safety of the Laser Institute of America (DISCOUNTED cost for the ALSC members), as well as a Laser Dentistry and Laser Surgery Basic Knowledge and Hands-On participation Wet Lab **CERTIFICATE** from the American Laser Study Club (**FREE** for the course participants).

## Meet the Instructors



### Martin Kaplan, DMD

Dr. Kaplan is a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry, he has developed the first in the country comprehensive Infant Laser Frenotomy class at Tufts University Dental/Medical Center in Boston. He is a recipient of the Kumar Patel Prize in Laser Surgery in 2020. Dr. Kaplan has lectured nationally and internationally, has co-authored several dental articles, and has been a contributing author in several dental texts including the *Journal of the American Laser Study Club - Infant Laser Frenectomy Special Issue*.



### James Chen, DMD

Dr. Chen is a distinguished dentist on Vancouver Island, specializing in the treatment of infant tongue and lip ties. He is one of the few practitioners in the region offering this essential service. In addition to his clinical work, Dr. Chen is a respected lecturer for the University of British Columbia's dentistry program, where he educates future dentists on the intricacies of Frenectomy with a particular focus on infants. His expertise extends to performing procedures under general anesthesia at the Comox Valley Hospital, ensuring comprehensive care for complex cases.



### Timucin Ari, DDS, PhD, FRCD(C)

Dr. Ari is a certified pediatric dentist dedicated to providing exceptional care for infants, children, adolescents, and patients with special needs. With a special focus on tongue-tie and airway issues, Dr. Ari has vast experience performing lip and tongue tie releases to enhance oral function and overall health. He emphasizes the importance of early evaluation to address feeding and breathing problems, ensuring well-balanced facial development and healthy airway function.



### Karrie Page, MSLP, R.SLP, S-LP(C), COM®, IBCLC

Karrie is a Registered Speech Language Pathologist, Certified Orofacial Myologist and an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant. Karrie owns and operates Tip of the Tongue in Red Deer, Alberta, focusing on orofacial myofunctional disorders, persistent sound errors for articulation therapy and lactation consulting. Karrie is passionate about providing care across the lifespan from birth through adulthood.



### Nicole Dickson, MSLP, R.SLP, S-LP(C), COM®

Nicole is a Registered Speech Language Pathologist and Certified Orofacial Myologist with extensive expertise in pediatric and adult care. She owns and operates a thriving private practice in Calgary, Alberta, where she specializes in addressing speech, language, and social communication disorders. Nicole's practice also focuses on orofacial myofunctional disorders, providing comprehensive treatment plans that enhance oral function and overall communication abilities.

## Tuition (USD)

Doctors: \$1,250    ALSC Members: \$50 OFF\*  
Non-Doctors: \$850    LightScapel Users: \$50 OFF\*

Registration  
[alsc.club/toronto](https://alsc.club/toronto)

Complete instructor biographies can be found at [alsc.club/instructors](https://alsc.club/instructors)



GLOH Education is an ADA CERP Recognized Provider. ADA CERP is a service of the American Dental Association to assist dental professionals in identifying quality providers of continuing dental education. ADA CERP does not approve or endorse individual courses or instructors, nor does it imply acceptance of credit hours by boards of dentistry. This continuing education activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the standards of the ADA Continuing Education Recognition Program (ADA CERP) through joint efforts between GLOH Education and the American Laser Study Club. GLOH Education designates this activity for 16 continuing education credits.

\*Information, terms, and conditions in this communication are subject to change without prior notice. The American Laser Study Club reserves the right to change the course's location, date and time, material; and cancel the course. Registered attendees will be notified within a reasonable window of time about any major changes to the course. If a course is canceled, registrants will be notified, via email, two weeks before the course date, at which time a full refund will be issued. Requested refunds will incur a 20% processing fee. No cancellations within 2-weeks of the course date.