The American Laser Study Club Presents

Integrating Laser Frenectomies and the Function First Model™ into a Dental Practice

DATES:
April 11-12, 2025
Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM
Saturday: 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM

LOCATION:
Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Laurel
15101 Sweitzer Lane
Laurel, MD, 20707

CE HOURS:
16 CE Credits
ADA CERP

INTRODUCTION:

How can you provide optimal care for patients with tongue-ties and lip-ties in your dental practice? This course is designed to help you achieve just that. Participants will learn the essential steps to implement a TOTS (Tethered Oral Tissues) program, from selecting the appropriate laser to mastering frenectomy techniques and managing financial and scheduling components. By focusing on practical application and multi-disciplinary approaches, this course equips you with the skills necessary for clinical and financial success, ensuring the best possible patient outcomes.

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 meet both requirements. This course touches on the practical aspects of soft tissue laser surgery and the fundamental processes involved in the laser-tissue interaction. 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;
- Explanation of the **Function First Model™** diagnosis and treatment;
- 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;
- Implementing TOTS treatment into a business;
- Building and training an in-house team;
- Billing and insurance setup and details;
- Current clinical assessment methods, diagnosis, and treatment of pediatric lingual and labial ties. Attendees will be able to:
  - Describe infant sucking physiology and how tongue-ties impair infant suck;
  - Appropriately use reliable diagnostic criteria to screen babies and children for this condition;
  - Clearly express orthodontic-myofunctional connection;
  - Discuss how the soft tissues of the orofacial complex may lead to malocclusion, TMD, headaches, and other problems; and
  - List and define all the 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. It includes detailed soft tissue ablation and coagulation physics 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 LightScalpel Inc.

HANDS-ON PARTICIPATION SESSION: 2 HOURS

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

COURSE CERTIFICATES:

Laser Institute of America

PETER VITRUK

CO2 MEDICAL LASER SAFETY ONLINE

The American Laser Study Club

Attendee's Name

Course participants who complete the 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).

ADA C·E·R·P® Continuing Education Recognition Program

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.

MEET THE INSTRUCTORS:

Piya Gandhi, DDS

Dr. Gandhi has been practicing dentistry since 2009. After completing her pediatric specialty training at the University of Texas in Houston, she pursued extensive training in the diagnosis and treatment of TOTS. She screens all her patients for oral restrictions and emphasizes a comprehensive, team-based approach to treatment. In 2024, Dr. Gandhi received the Kumar Patel Prize in Laser Surgery for her contributions to laser frenectomy education.

Alayna Pagnani-Gendron, DC

Dr. Pagnani-Gendron holds special certificate training in Webster Technique, the Advanced Webster Technique Training, Acupuncture, Myofascial Release and Graston Technique. She completed her CACCP, Certified by the Academy Council of Chiropractic Pediatrics. She has specialty training in craniosacral therapy and pre and post frenectomy body work. She loves treating her pregnant patients and helping them to feel their best throughout their pregnancies. She also enjoys treating infants and children at each milestone in their lives and keeping them healthy as they grow.

Leah Whitley, IBCLC

Leah is the creator and owner of SOS Lactation, LLC. She is an International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant who has acted in many capacities including: Writing breastfeeding curriculum, facilitating support groups, supporting a milk bank, private consultations, as well as teaching private and group classes. Leah discovered her passion for breastfeeding after the birth of her eldest daughter. With nearly a decade of experience, Leah has taught classes and facilitated consultations with thousands of new Houston parents and babies at several hospitals and clinics in Houston. Ultimately, her goal is to facilitate happy, healthy, babies while simultaneously providing the tools and support new moms need to be successful and reach their breastfeeding goals.

Catherine Kangas, RDH, Myofunctional Therapist

Catherine graduated in 2006 from Texas A&M College of Dentistry with a Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene. Over the last several years, she has been a part of dentistry in multiple different capacities: chairside as a dental hygienist, dental laser technology specialist, and now as an Orofacial Myofunctional Therapist.

Complete instructor biographies can be found at **alsc.club/instructors**

TUITION

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

REGISTRATION

alsc.club/courses