The American Laser Study Club Presents

Pediatric Tongue- and Lip-Ties and Laser Frenectomies

2-Day Hands-On Course in Mississauga, ON, Canada

DATE AND TIME:
September 5-6, 2025
Friday and Saturday
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

VENUE:
Sandman Signature Hotel
5400 Dixie Rd
Mississauga, ON, L4W 4T4

CE CREDITS:
16 CEUs

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:
  - 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 consequences and benefits of using lasers to remove oral restrictions.

Participants will also learn oral restriction release methods by observing **live laser surgery demonstrations**.

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, 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
- 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).

Tuition (USD)

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

Registration

alsc.club/sept2025

Meet the Instructors

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.

Krizia Proia, DDS, FRCD(C)

Dr. Proia is a Pediatric Dental Resident at Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center and a 2017 graduate of Boston University's Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine. She specializes in diagnosing and treating ankyloglossia in infants and children, collaborating with lactation consultants, speech language pathologists, and otolaryngologists to deliver minimally invasive, evidence-based frenotomy and postoperative care.

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®

As a Registered Speech-Language Pathologist and Certified Orofacial Myologist in Calgary, Alberta, Nicole brings specialized expertise to every client she serves. In her thriving private practice, she provides expert assessment and individualized treatment for pediatric and adult speech, language, and social communication disorders. Nicole also designs comprehensive therapy plans for orofacial myofunctional disorders, enhancing oral function and overall communicative effectiveness.

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

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**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 cancelations within 2-weeks of the course date.*