



## MEET OUR DOCTORS

In 2016, our board certified pediatric dentists became standard proficiency certified by the Academy of Laser Dentistry and began treating patients at our Baton Rouge location for tongue and lip tie laser procedures.

Members of the:

- American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
- American Dental Association
- Academy of Laser Dentistry
- A recommended provider of the Louisiana Tongue Tie Support Group

## AT AIPD WE OFFER:

- A multidisciplinary team approach to make revision a success.
- A kind, compassionate, and knowledgeable team of providers to make you and your little one comfortable.
- A highly effective topical anesthetic to help with any discomfort during the procedure.
- Any level of sedation needed to safely complete the procedure.
- A private nursing room for you and your little one. (coming soon)



Robert L. Delarosa, DDS ▪ Bradley S. Comeaux, DDS  
Paige Sigsworth, DDS ▪ Brynn L. Leroux, DDS

4607 Sherwood Common Blvd  
Baton Rouge, LA 70816

225-924-6622  
225-926-3384 Fax

[www.aipdbr.com](http://www.aipdbr.com)



Robert L. Delarosa, DDS ▪ Bradley S. Comeaux, DDS  
Paige Sigsworth, DDS ▪ Brynn L. Leroux, DDS

# LASER TONGUE TIE AND LIP TIE PROCEDURES



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The use of lasers in pediatric dentistry has become increasingly popular in recent years. Soft tissue lasers are commonly used to release tethered oral tissues, including lip and/or tongue ties, to improve feeding and swallowing problems in both infants and children. They may also be used to remove excessive tissue (often to facilitate orthodontic treatment) and tethered oral tissues in adolescents, teenagers, and adults.

When laser surgery is completed using proper recommended safety precautions (including working in a laser safety zone and using laser safety glasses on everyone in the treatment area), it is safe, quick, and void of any known complications. There is no known contraindication for tongue or lip tie laser surgery in a healthy patient.



## **SYMPTOMS ASSOCIATED WITH LIP AND/OR TONGUE TIES**

### **Infant Symptoms:**

- Infant has nursing ulcer on lip
- Clicking or gulping sounds while nursing
- Gumming, chewing nipples, leaks milk
- Easily chokes
- Frequent release and relatch
- Shallow latch
- Long nursing sessions, falls asleep mid feed
- Colic/Gas/Reflux
- Poor weight gain or weight loss
- Unable to hold a pacifier
- Potential future speech, feeding, and dental problems

### **Symptoms of Mother:**

- Pain while nursing
- Thrush
- Decreased milk supply
- Cracked, blistered, bleeding nipples
- Breasts don't fully empty
- Frequent mastitis
- General nursing discomfort

## **SIGNS ASSOCIATED WITH FEEDING OR SWALLOWING PROBLEMS IN CHILDREN:**

- Poor weight gain
- Problems chewing
- Refusing to eat
- Eating only certain types of food and refusing to try new foods
- Wet-sounding voice after eating or drinking
- Multiple lung infections



A tongue or a lip can be released using a laser in as little as 5 to 10 minutes and in most cases only requires topical numbing anesthetic. This allows your infant to breastfeed immediately following the procedure. There is little to no bleeding and minimal discomfort following the procedure. Older children may require local anesthetic and/or some level of sedation in addition to topical gel to ensure their comfort and safety during the procedure.

