



Capital District
Pediatric Dentistry
where smiles grow.

LASER PROCEDURE

MAXILLARY (UPPER) FRENECTOMY

This procedure uses a laser to remove a bulk of tissue from between the two front teeth and under the upper lip. When the laser is used, sutures (stitches) are usually not required. It may look like your child has an open, diamond-shaped wound when you lift up his/her upper lip.

BLEEDING

There may be some bleeding from the area where the tissue was removed. Most bleeding will stop within a few hours. You may see more bleeding when your child eats or brushes his/her teeth. This is normal.

If the bleeding does not seem to stop, or it seems excessive, take a wet tea bag and place it under the upper lip. Apply pressure with your fingers and leave on for 20 minutes. Repeat several times if necessary. Do not hesitate to call us if you are concerned.

DISCOMFORT

It is normal to have some sensitivity once the novocaine wears off. The best way to minimize discomfort is to give your child Tylenol, Motrin or Advil before it does. (Novocaine usually lasts 2-3 hours, but varies with each child.) Most children experience mild discomfort for 1-2 days, so plan on giving the over-the-counter pain medications for that long.

EATING

It is okay for your child to eat, but try to avoid hot/spicy foods and citrus foods. These may cause pain. It is also important for your child to avoid biting into anything hard or soft for 48 hours. You want to give the area a chance to heal. Biting into things may irritate the area, cause it to bleed and cause discomfort.

CONDITIONING THE AREA

It is a good idea to moisturize the area under the upper lip with Vaseline or vitamin E. This can be done 3-4 times a day over the next 2-3 days. It will help facilitate healing. Please note: it is normal for the area under the lip to initially look brownish (for 1-2 days), then yellowish/green, and finally pinkish. This is normal in the healing process.

FOLLOW-UP APPOINTMENT

We will want to see your child at our office in 1-2 weeks. If you did not make an appointment before you left, please call us to schedule one. This will be a short appointment for the dentist to evaluate your child's healing and answer any questions you might have.

IF YOUR CHILD HAS SEVERE PAIN, BLEEDING, SWELLING OR A FEVER, PLEASE CALL US SO THAT EXACT INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOUR CHILD'S CARE CAN BE GIVEN.

9 Century Hill Drive • Latham, NY • (518) 785-3911