

Informed Consent for Infant Frenectomy

The **lingual** frenectomy is a minor surgical procedure that involves clipping and/or lasering the band of tissue located on the underside of the tongue (frenum). When this band is too tight, too short, or both, normal tongue movement is prevented.

The treatment may accomplish the following, but not be limited to:

- Allow the tongue to move in a greater range of motion
- Possibly improve the breastfeeding comfort and efficiency
- Possibly reduce the severity of speech difficulties

Complications of this treatment may include, but not be limited to:

- Excessive bleeding
- Damage to the vital structures under the tongue
- No perceivable benefit may be achieved

The **labial** frenectomy is a minor surgical procedure to free the lip attachment from the gums when it is too tight and/or too short. It can restrict proper lip movement and flexibility.

The treatment may accomplish the following, but not be limited to:

- Allow adequate lip flange to improve nursing effectiveness
- Reduce the pockets on either side of the frenum to prevent food trapping
- Give the upper lip more freedom of movement for speech sounds
- Possible reduction in reflux/aerophagia

Complications of this treatment may include, but not be limited to:

- Excessive bleeding
- Lip muscle damage
- No perceivable benefit may be achieved

*Please note that this treatment is NOT intended to prevent a gap between the upper front teeth. If that is the goal, it may need treatment at about 11-12 years of age.

Signature: _____ Date: _____