

POST-OP INSTRUCTIONS FOR INFANT LIP/TONGUE-TIE RELEASE

Your goal is to have the frenum heal and re-form as far back as possible. You should do the stretches with the baby laying down on a bed or couch facing away from you like during the exam. Please follow up within 2 days. **Begin doing the stretches** immediately after the procedure. Gloves (preferred) or clean hands with nails trimmed should be used for stretches.

- 1. If the lip was revised also, first put your fingers all the way in the fold of the lip and pull the lip up and out as high as possible, so you can see the white diamond and cover the nostrils. It may bleed slightly the first day or two, this is not a concern.
- 2. With one or two fingers, lift the tongue up and back just above the white diamond to put tension on the wound and hold for 10 seconds. It may bleed slightly the first day or two, this is not a concern.
- 3. The main issue is to open the "diamond" all the way up on the lip and especially the tongue. If you notice it is becoming tight, then stretch a little more to open it back up.
- 4. Repeat this ideally 6 times a day (4 minimum) (change up the time during the day).
- 5. Repeat this for 4-6 weeks.
- 6. At other times, play in your child's mouth a few times a day with clean fingers to avoid causing an oral aversion. Tickle the lips, the gums, or allow your child to suck your finger.