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POST OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR FRENECTOMY

The thick band of tissue growing between the upper front teeth is called the Maxillary Frenum. This normally attaches above the gum over the central incisors. When this band inserts slightly above or between the erupting front teeth, it can cause a large gap to appear.

A procedure called a Frenectomy (removal of the tissue) may prevent this problem from developing, if it is completed as the permanent teeth begin to erupt.

When it occurs between the primary front teeth, it is usually left untreated until the permanent teeth begin to erupt, unless it is so severe it creates immediate problems.

Treatment Procedure

The area of the frenum is numbed with a local anesthetic. The soft tissue and sometimes a small piece of bone is then removed using the Erbium Laser. In some cases, normal eruption of the adjacent teeth helps push the teeth together and close the gap. Stitches are usually not required.

Post Operative Care

When using the Laser, post operative discomfort is minimal and requires no pain medication, in most cases. If your child experiences discomfort, you may use Children's Motrin or a similar product. It would be best to avoid spicy, crusty food and sour fruit juices for 1 week.

Rinsing the area for a few days, after eating, with a teaspoon of salt dissolved in a glass of warm water or Peroxyl will reduce healing time. Initial healing occurs in 5-7 days. Additional healing and further tooth movement may take 3-6 months.

Limit activities which could result in the area being traumatized or hit for 5-7 days.

Children can return to school the day after the treatment is completed.

If any unusual bleeding or pain occurs please call the office as soon as possible.