

### Informed Consent for Soft Tissue Dental Laser Procedures

The goal of a laser procedure is to eliminate or remove soft /gum tissue that is excessive, causing restrictions, getting in the way of ideal esthetics and/or inhibiting a tooth from erupting. Generally laser treatment results in improvement in the intended condition, but occasionally the procedure will need to be repeated to get the desired outcome.

**Alternatives:** Alternatives to laser treatment are: traditional surgical methods such as scalpel and/or cauterizing procedures often requiring anesthesia or no treatment. If you would rather pursue alternative treatment, please let Dr. Jen know and she will be happy to discuss alternatives with you.

**Possible Intraoperative Complications:** While reported complications with the soft tissue are rare, there is a risk of burn or permanent scarring: however this is very unlikely because the laser energy is carefully metered and contained. Eye Damage is a possibility if one were to look directly into the laser beam. **We provide and require eye protection that will prevent this; it must be in place at all times when the laser is in operation.**

#### Possible Short-term Effects of Laser Dental Treatment:

- Pain/burning/itching sensation may occur for a few days after treatment.
- IF anesthetic is given watch for 3-4 hours after the procedure that the child doesn't bite their lip, tongue or cheek.
- Tissue around the sight of the procedure may feel "tight"
- Redness/inflammation/swelling of the tissue will likely be noticed for the first few days postop.
- Wound healing-white area and/or slight oozing of the tissue may persist for a short time.
- The tissue in the surgical site may lighten or darken depending on your child's tissue pigmentation.
- There may be a recurrence or reattachment of the problem or the tissue.

#### Possible Long term Effect of Laser Dental Treatment:

- There is a rare risk of scarring. It is often related to genetic makeup. It can be minimized by following aftercare instructions.
- Tissue pigment changes soft-tissue color and texture changes may occur.
- There is a low risk of infection at the surgical site.

**I understand that:** This is an elective procedure and the treatment is not reversible, more procedures could be needed to achieve the optimal result. The practice of dentistry is not an exact science and no guarantees have been made to me concerning the results of the procedure. It is not possible to state every complication that may occur due to laser dental surgery. Complications of a poor outcome could manifest weeks, months or even years after surgery.

I understand this explanation of soft tissue dental laser dental surgery and its risks, benefits, and alternatives. I have had the opportunity to have my questions answered regarding the proposed procedure. I have been offered a copy of this consent. I give consent to having the dental laser procedure performed on my child.

Signature of Parent: