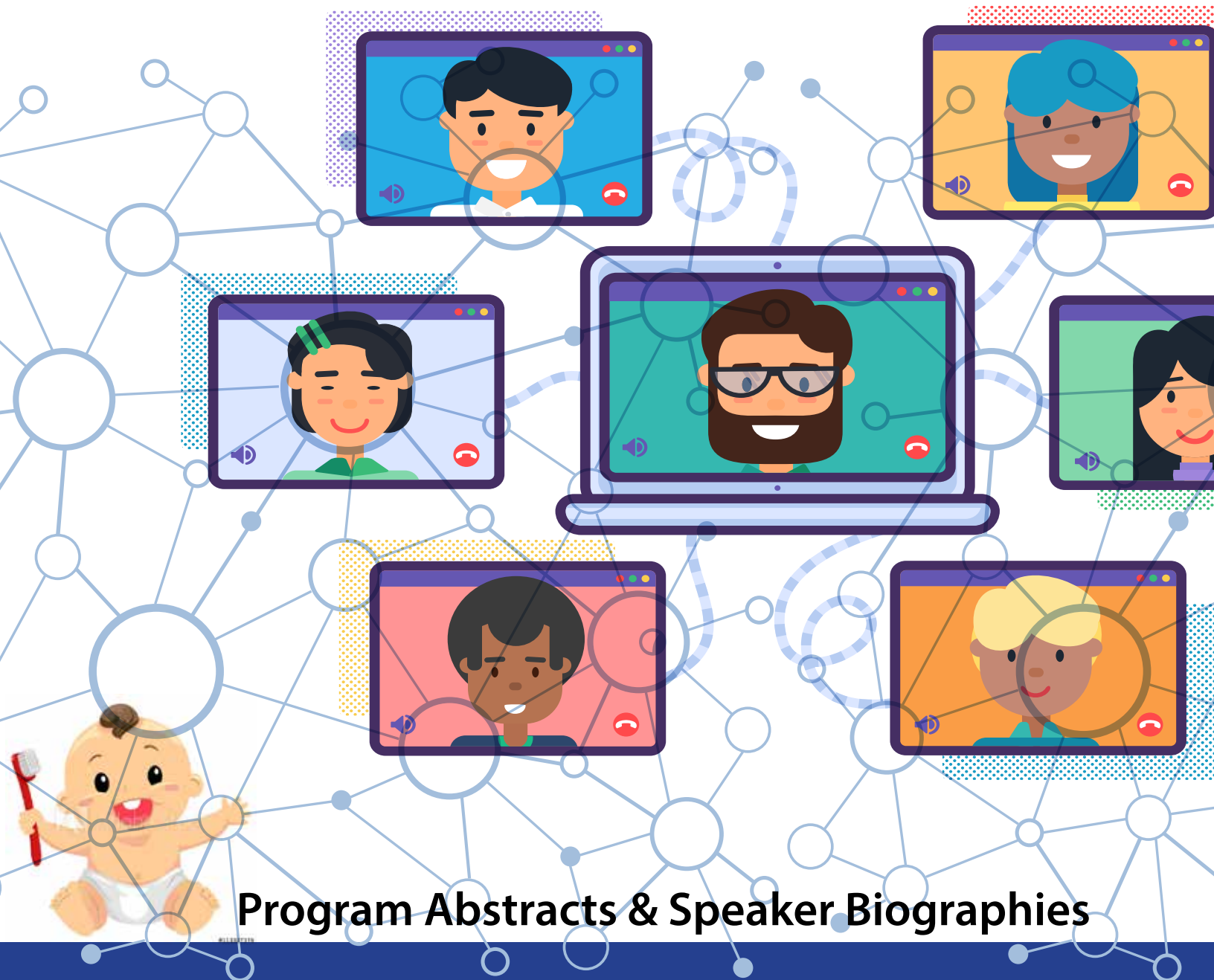


**Live and On
Demand**



Pediatric Health - A Differential Diagnosis: Beyond Tethered Oral Tissues (TOTs)



Program Abstracts & Speaker Biographies

This 10-week CE virtual program takes dentistry to new levels of diagnosis and treatment for systemic health from birth to old age. The program provides topics beyond tethered oral tissues. The schedule includes brain development, eliminating air induced reflux, speech concerns, preventing attention deficit disorder (ADD or ADHD), diagnosing obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) in children, using lasers to stop snoring, aftercare for surgery in children and adults, the role of myofunctional therapy, and an examination of an infant for tots that includes more than just looking at an infant's mouth.

Learning Objectives:

1. Understanding why revising the lingual frenum and other TOTs is not just for improving breastfeeding
2. Understanding how untreated ankyloglossia may cause long-term effects on brain development, which may continue into adulthood
3. How to do a proper assessment and exam to determine the existence of TOTs
4. Learn who are the members of the assessment and treatment team for TOTs

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*Attendees may earn up to 17.50 CEUs for attending all of the sessions
Live or On-Demand until December 31, 2021.*

ALD Pediatric Symposium

On-Demand & Delivered Live January - March 2021

Pediatric Health - A Differential Diagnosis: Beyond Tethered Oral Tissues (TOTs)

January 6, 13, 20, 27 | 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm ET

February 3, 10, 17, 24 : March 3, 10 | FORMAT: Speaker 90 minutes Q&A 15-30 min

Symposium Moderator: Rishita Jaju, DMD

Date 2021	Speaker	Subject Topic	Title
January 6	Lawrence Kotlow, DDS Albany NY	Pediatric Dysfunction	Revising Restrictive Tethered Oral Tissues (RTOTs) is Not Just for Breastfeeding
January 13	Kevin Boyd, DDS Chicago, IL	Cranial Development	The Tongue and Its Relationship to Growth, Development and Function of the Cranio-Facial-Respiratory Complex (CFRC)
January 20	Michelle Emanuel, OTR/L Cincinnati, OH	Myofunctional Therapy and Maternal Bonding	Parent-Infant Bonding, Connection, Co-Regulation and Need for Earliest Myofunctional Therapy Intervention
January 27	Barry Raphael, DMD Clifton, NJ	Orthodontics	The Tongue and the Orthodontist: A Troubled Love Story
February 3	Michael Gelb, DDS, MS New York, NY	Airways	Tongue as it Relates to Airway
February 10	Sharon Vallone, DC, FICCP South Windsor, CT	Chiropractic	The Third Side of the Triangle: The Rationale for Pre- and Post- Surgical Chiropractic Care of the Infant with TOTS
February 17	Vanessa Anderson-Smith, MA CCC-SLP COM Sioux Falls, SD	Speech & Language	Setting Up Our Patients Up for Success: Why Pre and Post Frenectomy Therapy is Essential
February 24	David Thome, DDS Mooreville, NC	Airway and Sleep (Fotona)	Pediatric Airway and Applications of a Dual-Wavelength Laser
	Tony Bolamperti, DDS Omaha, NE	Airway and Sleep (Convergent)	Non-surgical Snoring Solutions with a 9.3-micron Laser
March 3	Ben Curtis, DDS Baylor University, Dallas, TX	TOTs (Biolase)	TOTs - Organizing for the Unexpected
March 10	Ed Kusek, DDS Sioux Falls, SD Vicki Neve, Sioux Falls, SD	Medical Reimbursement (Ultradent and GPT)	Insurance & Medical Reimbursement for Soft Tissue Dental Procedures

Presentation Abstracts

ALL TIMES ARE USA EASTERN TIME

January 6, 2021 • 7:30 PM

Revising Restrictive Tethered Oral Tissues (RTOTs) Is Not Just for Breastfeeding

Presenter: Larry Kotlow, DDS, Albany, New York, USA

Course Description:

Restrictive tethered oral tissues (RTOTs) can have a profound impact on infant brain development, create air-induced reflux, speech concerns, and contribute to attention-deficit disorder (ADD) or attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) in children. The correct way to examine an infant for TOTs includes more than just looking at the infant's mouth.

Educational Objectives

- Understand why revising the lingual frenum and other RTOTs is not just for improving breastfeeding.
- Learn how untreated ankyloglossia may have a long-term effect on brain development which may continue into adulthood.
- Discover how to do a proper assessment and exam to determine the existence of TOTs.
- Identify the members of the assessment and treatment team for RTOTs.

January 13, 2021 • 7:30 PM

The Tongue and Its Relationship to Growth, Development and Function of the Cranio-Facial-Respiratory Complex (CFRC)

Presenter: Kevin Boyd, DDS, MSc, Chicago, Illinois, USA

Course Description:

Ankyloglossia, also referred to as tongue-tie or short lingual frenum, along with restrictive upper- and/or lower-lip ties and frenula that tightly bind posterior perioral mucosa to buccal gingivae, are collectively classified as Tethered Oral Tissues (TOTs). Dr. Larry Kotlow has recently suggested that TOTs are only diagnosable as a pathologic condition when tight constriction contributes to impaired function of the tongue, lips, and perioral musculature. Researchers have identified restrictive ankyloglossia (RA) as often being a component of orofacial myofunctional disorders implicated in etiologies of the following malocclusion phenotypes: transverse skeletal deficiency, anterior open-bite, high-angle mandibular growth, and high narrow palate. Other investigators have shown an association between restricted tongue mobility, narrowing of the maxillary dental width, elongation of the soft palate, and a high-arched palate, and, if left untreated at birth, RA is associated with obstructive sleep apnea syndrome (OSAS) at later age. Given that certain malocclusion phenotypes often associated with RA, specifically, transverse deficiency of the maxilla and/or mandible, sagittal

deficiency of the mandible and/or maxilla, vertical skeletal maxillary excess or deficiency and high narrow palatal vault, it seems a medically indefensible position to not identify potentially problematic RA with validated screening tools, such as those published by Kotlow and Hazelbaker, as early in a child's life as might be feasible to do so (i.e., under the age of six); and furthermore, when identified and diagnosed by a qualified health professional, it also seems indefensible to not offer appropriate intervention, or referral for intervention, by a qualified professional, for not only RA revision, but also for the correction of the RA-associated malocclusion traits that might present as a co-morbidities.

Educational Objectives

- Explain why restrictive ankyloglossia (RA) should be understood as a possible etiological factor contributing to orofacial myofunctional disorder (OMD), non-syndromic early (under age 6) childhood malocclusion (ECM), and pediatric sleep-related breathing disorder/obstructive sleep apnea (SRBD/OSA).
- Review how RA may be assessed for severity through utilization of validated screening assessment tools as early in a child's post-natal life as might be feasible to do so.
- Appreciate why RA should be treated by a qualified and experienced medical or dental professional as a possible effective adjunct to other interventions aimed at correcting craniofacial-respiratory complex disease co-morbidities.

January 20, 2021 • 7:30 PM

Parent-Infant Bonding, Connection, Co-Regulation and the Need for Earliest Myofunctional Therapy Intervention

Presenter: Michelle Emanuel, OTR/L, Cincinnati, Ohio, USA

Course Description:

How do babies and parents bond, connect, and co-regulate? What do these words actually mean and how do these processes translate for babies and families who are struggling to find the balance of feeding, oral dysfunction, and tethered oral tissues? One thing is certain, oral dysfunction causes stress and can interrupt the primal and innate capabilities of loving parents. Michelle will discuss how to bridge these gaps and promote connection, as well as ease, through professional interactions, procedures, and recommendations. Additionally, she will discuss the earliest application of myofunctional science for precrawling babies, the physiologic rationale, and how this promotes optimal craniofacial respiratory development.

Educational Objectives

- Identify two key aspects of parent / infant bonding and attachment.
- Understand the meaning of co-regulation and how that affects the release of tethered oral tissues.
- Describe two ways myofunctional therapy is essential for babies.

January 27, 2021 • 7:30 PM

The Tongue and the Orthodontist: A Troubled Love Story

Presenter: Barry Raphael, DMD, Clifton, New Jersey, USA

Course Description:

Orthodontists have known about the role of the tongue in facial growth and malocclusion for over a century, but have often forgotten this knowledge. Orthodontic specialist Dr. Barry Raphael will tell the story of his own troubled relationship with The Tongue and how he turned it into a collaborative partnership at best, and indeed, a stormy love affair at worst. He will look at how his orthodontic training did not prepare him for the changes that are occurring in orthodontics today and how a new way of thinking about the tongue, its function, and its behavior have now become a standard part of his integrative orthodontic practice.

Educational Objectives

- Summarize the role of the tongue in facial growth and development.
- Review the role of the tongue in airway function.
- Specify the three components of assessing and treating airway flow limitation.
- Appreciate the integrative model of orthodontics as a model for the future of all of dentistry.

February 3, 2021 • 7:30 PM

Tongue as It Relates to Airway

Presenter: Michael Gelb, DDS, MS, New York, New York, USA

Course Description:

Tongue-tie, low tongue posture, and low tone are often associated with breathing-related sleep disorders (BRSD). All of these tongue qualities are associated with a narrow palate, nasal disuse, and mouth breathing perpetuating a downward spiral and altering facial growth. Optimizing tongue movement, posture, and tone following myofunctional therapy is often the first step in improving airway function and volume. This presentation will explore identification of children with craniofacial risk factors for BRSD with suggested solutions. AirwayCentric pediatric dentistry is dedicated to improved development of the prefrontal cortex and neurobehavioral and neurocognitive function. The role of the tongue in AirwayCentric pediatrics will be explored.

Educational Objectives

- Identify craniofacial risk factors in BRSD.
- Become familiar with the Pediatric Sleep Questionnaire or Sleep Inventory.
- Understand the role of the pediatric dentist in the Airway team.
- Describe the association between BRSD and attention-deficit disorder (ADD).

February 10, 2021 • 7:30 PM

The Third Side of the Triangle: The Rationale for Pre- and Post-Surgical Chiropractic Care of the Infant with TOTs

Presenter: Sharon Vallone, DC, FICCP, South Windsor, Connecticut, USA

Course Description:

Chiropractors and other manual therapists can play a key role in the care of infants with feeding difficulties related to TOTs. The role of the chiropractor is to evaluate and diagnose functional aberrations as they relate to infant biomechanical and neurologic integrity. Presurgical evaluation and treatment of such conditions have the potential for preventing unnecessary surgery (revealing that, in fact, the TOTs were not the source of the dysfunctional oral motor development) or will support the surgical intervention by reducing any compensatory biomechanical or soft tissue restrictions that could interfere with the ability of the dentist/surgeon to access a clear field for surgery. Compensatory soft tissue adhesions, muscular asymmetry, or articular misalignment can result in decreased mandibular gape, taut peri-oral, submandibular, and masticatory musculature. Poor cervical range of motion restricts the infant's ability to extend at the cranial base and widely gape, and plays a role in retraction of the mandible. As an anchor for the lingual musculature, the hyoid bone is an integral part of the evaluation and treatment of breastfeeding dysfunction, and its potential role in airway obstruction will also be examined. Post-surgical care has a supportive role in helping to resolve compensatory musculoskeletal issues and in the neurologic integration of the structural changes as a result of releasing the oral tissues.

Educational Objectives

- Summarize what chiropractic care entails for the infant and how it fits into the collaborative care of the infant with dysfunctional feeding issues.
- Understand the difference between neuromusculoskeletal dysfunction and TOTs as they relate to oral motor function of the infant with dysfunctional feeding issues.
- Describe what pre- and post-chiropractic care comprises for the infant who has dysfunctional feeding issues.

February 17, 2021 • 7:30 PM

Setting Up Our Patients for Success: Why Pre- and Post-Frenectomy Therapy Is Essential

Presenter: Vanessa Anderson-Smith, MA, CCC-SLP, COM, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, USA

Course Description:

Time and time again it has been found that a frenectomy can make significant and positive impacts in a child's eating, speaking, and airway functions. However, what happens before and after the release is vital in setting our patients up for achieving ideal function and receiving overall benefit from the procedure. This presentation will discuss why pre-frenectomy therapy is essential in not only properly preparing the oral structure but also encouraging the cooperation of the patient pre- and post-procedure. Also included is a discussion of how and why therapy after frenectomy aids in teaching patients optimal movement and function following a structural change.

Educational Objectives

- Describe how the therapy process is important to a frenum release.
- Summarize what a functional oral assessment entails.
- Explain how pre-frenectomy therapy can increase cooperation and tolerance of the patient during the procedure and after care.

February 24, 2021 • 7:30 PM

Pediatric Airway and Applications of a Dual-Wavelength Laser

Presenter: David Thome, DDS, Mooresville Pediatric Dentistry Mooresville, North Carolina, USA

Course Description:

A better airway means better babies and better children/adults. This presentation is a high-level overview of current treatments offered in pediatric dentistry and how lasers can be incorporated for airway enhancement. Topics include: NightLase® – pediatric applications and the minimally invasive approach to better breathing with dual laser therapy; Tongue ties – how these conditions contribute to decreased oxygenation of cells; Mouth breathing – less oxygen, more cavities, prevents reset of immune system and endocrine system; Frenectomies – improve function of tongue for feeding and breathing; Appliances – HealthyStart® habit-correcting appliances help keep the mouth closed and airway open.

Educational Objectives:

- Discuss the pediatric airway and use of laser therapy with a dual laser system.
- Learn how to screen for breathing and speech disorders.
- Specify appliances for breathing disorders and habit correction.

February 24, 2021 • 8:15 PM

Non-surgical Snoring Solutions with a 9.3-micron Laser

Presenter: Anthony Bolamperti, DDS, Omaha, Nebraska, USA

Course Description:

Did you know that 67% of the population snores? People who snore typically have an airway issue, and that can complicate other systemic health issues. One major airway issue is tethered oral tissue (TOT), which may cause airway obstruction. TOTs need to be identified and treated at the earliest age possible. When it goes undiagnosed and treated, it can lead to major health complications and negatively affect overall function. In the past, patients who needed intervention for snoring could opt for uncomfortable oral appliances, uncomfortable pull-forward splints, or invasive orthognathic surgery. With Solea® Sleep, these patients now have a fast and effective alternative. This is an easy-to-administer protocol for use with a 9.3-micron all-tissue dental laser (Solea, Convergent Dental, Needham, Mass., USA) that provides patients with rapid relief by tightening the soft palate and reducing vibrations that cause patients to snore. Unlike surgical procedures that require long and painful recoveries, Solea Sleep is a non-surgical treatment that allows patients to immediately return to their daily routines with little to no discomfort.

Educational Objectives

- Summarize available treatment solutions for tethered oral tissues.
- Discuss the diagnosis of snoring.
- Describe treatment of snoring with the Solea Sleep protocol.


March 3, 2021 • 7:30 PM

TOTs: Organizing for the Unexpected

Presenter: Benjamin Curtis, DDS, Canton, Texas, USA

Course Description:

We always anticipate that our TOTs procedures will go as planned, but that is not always the case. This discussion examines issues that can arise in TOTs care and focuses on helping to organize for these unexpected events. One almost unavoidable side effect of TOTs procedures is bleeding. This discussion will identify pre- and post-operative factors that place patients at higher risk for bleeding and review ways to help manage uncontrolled bleeding if it should occur during or after the procedure. This discussion will also look at patient selection for TOTs procedures with a comprehensive approach based on patient need, health history, and behavior. From this, we can best plan the proper management of care for the patient. This will help us identify when to monitor the TOTs, proceed with TOTs treatment, or refer out. Good patient selection is always an important factor in avoiding unexpected outcomes. Many procedural difficulties can be avoided by beginning with a solid pre-op and post-op care plan that is well communicated to the family. While a good game plan is crucial, it is also important to remain adaptive in your protocol. This discussion will identify ways to be flexible and troubleshoot your pre-op and post-op care plan to best fit the specific needs of patients and their families. First-time mothers, high-maintenance moms, and difficult patients are not uncommon in TOTs practices, but identifying them early and adapting your pre-op and post-op care plan can help to improve their experience and the results of the procedure. We will conclude with a



discussion on low socio-economic status (SES) patients where payer source may be a hindrance to proper or ideal treatment and care. This population tends to be a patient group where access to care is a big problem and our classic team approach to TOTs procedures may not be realistic due to limited finances, poor insurance benefits, and many other confounding factors. This population challenges us to think outside the box, and in this discussion, we will look at ways to be adaptive in managing their TOTs care. Unexpected things happen, but it is rising to the occasion for your patient in that moment that can make all the difference. It is my hope that we shall rise, and rise together we shall.

Educational Objectives

- Identify risk factors for bleeding during TOTs care and be prepared to manage uncontrolled bleeding if it should arise.
- Comprehensively select patients based on need, health history, and behavior, and identify when to monitor, proceed, or refer.
- Begin with a solid pre-op and post-op care plan while remaining flexible and adaptive to the specific needs of the patient and family.
- Think outside the box for low SES patients and keep an adaptive team approach to TOTs care.

March 10, 2021 • 7:30 PM

Soft Tissue Procedures Other than Frenectomies and How Insurance Covers Them

Presenter: Edward R. Kusek, DDS, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, USA

Presenter: Vicki Neve, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, USA

Course Description:

This presentation will show how you can use your laser to increase your return on investment by performing soft tissue procedures such as biopsies, aesthetic crown lengthening, ovate pontics, distal wedges, and periodontal treatments. The presenters will share how to maximize benefits for your patient with dental and medical insurance.

Educational Objectives

- Increase return on investment with your dental laser by doing procedures other than frenectomies.
- Define steps to complete laser-assisted biopsies.
- Learn how to use your dental laser to reduce the need for referral.
- Specify proper dental and medical codes to submit for your patient's maximum benefits.

Speaker Biographies

Vanessa Anderson-Smith, MA, CCC-SLP, COM

Private Practice | Sioux Falls, South Dakota, USA

Vanessa is a South Dakota native who attended Augustana University in Sioux Falls, SD, and received her master's degree from the University of South Dakota in 2010. She began her career working in skilled nursing homes in South Dakota and then started her own private practice specializing in motor speech and feeding disorders in 2013. She recently opened a second location of her practice in Brandon, South Dakota. Her certified trainings include TalkTools Oral Placement Therapy (Level 4 Certification), PROMPT Bridging, Tethered Oral Tissues Specialty, and The SOS Approach to Feeding. Vanessa has also done specialized training in myofascial release, apraxia of speech, pediatric dysphagia, and orofacial myofunctional disorders. In addition to these trainings, Vanessa is a Certified Orofacial Myologist through the International Association of Orofacial Myology. She is a TalkTools instructor and serves on multiple non-profit boards.

Disclosure: Vanessa is a TalkTools instructor and is paid to create and teach courses using the TalkTools techniques. She is also an independent contractor for Little Sprout Speech, specifically a moderator on social media platforms for the Feed The Peds: The Myo Membership program.

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Anthony Bolamperti, DDS

Private Practice | Omaha, Nebraska, USA

Dr. Bolamperti is a general dentist in Omaha, NE, and a graduate of Creighton University Dental School. He began practicing with his father in 1995 and opened his own private practice in 1997. Dr. Bolamperti is a part-time faculty member at Creighton University School of Dentistry. He has more than 15 years of laser dentistry experience.

Disclosure: Dr. Bolamperti lectures for Convergent Dental and receives a modest honorarium for these events.

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Kevin Boyd, DDS, MSc

Private Practice | Chicago, Illinois, USA

Dr. Boyd is a board-certified pediatric dentist practicing in Chicago. He is also an attending instructor in the residency-training program in Pediatric Dentistry at Lurie Children's Hospital where he additionally serves as a dental consultant to the Sleep Medicine service. Prior to completing his dental degree from Loyola University's Chicago College of Dentistry in 1986, he obtained an advanced degree (M.Sc.) in Human Nutrition from Michigan State University where his research interests were focused on unhealthy eating, dental caries, obesity, and diabetes. He attended the University of Iowa for his post-graduate residency training where he received a Certificate in Pediatric Dentistry in 1988. Dr. Boyd has served on the teaching faculties of the University of Illinois College of Dentistry, the University of Michigan College of Dentistry, the University of Chicago Hospital, Rush Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center and Michael Reese Hospital as an attending clinical instructor. He is currently completing prerequisite course work in Biological Anthropology at Northeastern Illinois University in preparation for graduate study and research in the newly emerging discipline of Evolutionary Medicine. His clinical focus is centered on prevention of oral and systemic disease through promotion of healthy breathing and eating; his primary research interest is in the area of infant/early childhood feeding practices and how they impact palatal-facial development, naso-respiratory competence, and neuro-cognitive development. He is currently a visiting scholar at the University of Pennsylvania doing research in the areas of anthropology and orthodontics. He has recently received appointment as an adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Arkansas.

Disclosure: Dr. Boyd has no financial interests in any companies.

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Benjamin Curtis, DDS

Private Practice | Canton, Texas, USA

Dr. Curtis graduated from Baylor College of Dentistry and went on to Pediatric Dental Residency there after completing dental school. He was named a Harris Fellow for the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) and is an American Board of Pediatric Dentistry (ABPD) Board Certified Pediatric Dentist. He currently practices in Dallas, TX, where he utilizes an all-tissue laser in his practice on a daily basis. He enjoys being a part-time voluntary teacher for the pediatric dental residents at Texas A&M Dental School where he teaches the residents laser dentistry and private practice courses. Dr. Curtis has taught hands-on, online, and live lecture courses on pediatric laser dentistry to clinicians worldwide.

Disclosure: Dr. Curtis lectures for Biolase and receives a modest honorarium for these activities.

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Michelle Emanuel, OTR/L

Private Practice | Cincinnati, Ohio, USA

Michelle has spent the last 24 years of her career as an Occupational Therapist specializing in the assessment and treatment of precrawling babies. She has a strong interest in breastfeeding, myofunctional science, neuro-based soft tissue manual therapy techniques, optimal movement, and the social nervous system. Michelle is a board-certified Reflexologist, infant massage educator, and creator of the TummyTime! Method, a unique movement sequence to optimize cranial nerve function and neurodevelopment.

Disclosure: Michelle receives compensation from TummyTime! Method.

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Michael Gelb, DDS, MS

Private Practice | New York, New York, USA

Dr. Gelb grew up with a father who was a temporomandibular joint (TMJ) pioneer and a mother who became a myofunctional therapist. He expanded his knowledge of TMJ into Airway, creating AirwayCentric® Dentistry and AirwayCentric® Orthodontics. Along with Howie Hindin, he is a coauthor of *Gasp! Airway Health* and a cofounder of the American Academy of Physiological Medicine and Dentistry (AAPMD) and Foundation for Airway Health. Dr. Gelb is dedicated to the optimal development of the brain in children at the earliest age. He would like to see more diagnosis and testing of children and adults for breathing-related sleep disorders. Growing the airway as early in life as possible has become a main focus and priority. He is the director of The Gelb Center in New York City and Westchester, NY.

Disclosure: Dr. Gelb has a consulting agreement with ProSomnus.

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Larry Kotlow, DDS

Private Practice | Albany, New York, USA

Dr. Kotlow is a 1972 graduate of SUNY Buffalo Dental School, and completed his pediatric dental residency at the Children's Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1974. He became Board Certified in Pediatric Dentistry 1980, and is a life member of the American Dental Association, (ADA), Life Fellow of the American Board of Pediatric dentistry (FABPD), life member of the New York State Dental Association (NYSDA) and Third District Dental Society of New York, member of American Academy of Physiologic Medicine and Dentistry (AAPMD), and member of the Academy of Laser Dentistry since 2000. He has achieved Mastership from the Academy of Laser Dentistry (MALD), ALD Advanced Proficiency in Erbium:YAG, Nd:YAG, and CO₂ (9300 nm) lasers, and Standard Proficiency in diode (810 nm and 980 nm) lasers. Dr. Kotlow is the author of more than 30 peer-reviewed articles, two textbooks (*Atlas of TOTS* and *SOS 4 TOTS*) about lasers, infant frenectomies, and breastfeeding. He has contributed to various chapters in six textbooks on laser dentistry.

Disclosure: In the past Dr. Kotlow has provided laser educational presentations, videos and consultations for HOYA ConBio and Fotona's PowerLase AT Spa and LightWalker Lasers. He has contributed to the development of infant safety goggles with Innovative Optics. At the present time, he receives honoraria for training and provides education for Convergent Dental. He is a beta tester of new upgrades and software for the Solea all-tissue carbon dioxide dental laser (9300 nm), as well as a dental consultant to and investor in Convergent Dental.

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Edward R. Kusek, DDS

Private Practice | Sioux Falls, South Dakota, USA

Dr. Kusek is a Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Implantology, and an Honored Fellow of American Academy of Implant Dentistry. He has achieved Mastership in the Academy of Laser Dentistry and the Academy of General Dentistry. He is an adjunct professor at the University of Nebraska Dental School and University of South Dakota Department of Dental Hygiene. Dr. Kusek is the President of the Academy of Laser Dentistry.

Disclosure: Dr. Kusek lectures for Ultradent Products and receives an honorarium. He consults with laser companies Biolase, Great Plains Technologies, Ultradent, and Convergent Dental, and with Straumann on dental implants.

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Vicki L. Neve

Family & Implant Dentistry, Ltd | Sioux Falls, South Dakota, USA

Vicki has been involved in the dental field as both a clinical assistant and in the business office since 1982. She has worked with Dr. Edward Kusek at Family & Implant Dentistry since 1995, managing the coding and insurance, and is currently Administrative Business Assistant. Vicki is passionate about helping patients afford the dental care that they deserve by assisting in comfortable payment options and working with their dental and medical insurance benefits. She has attended many hours of continuing education with focus on maximizing patient benefits, and is a part of Dr. Kusek's team that hosts courses and speaks to attending dentists, hygienists, and auxiliaries.

Disclosure: Vicki has reported no commercial affiliations or personal conflicts of interest.

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Barry Raphael, DMD

Private Practice | Clifton, New Jersey, USA

Dr. Raphael has been an orthodontic specialist in practice just outside of New York City for the past 37 years. Stories of his change of heart in orthodontics have made him a popular speaker nationally and internationally. He is a past-president of his local dental society and his State orthodontic society. He sits on the Children's Airway Health Task Force for the American Dental Association (ADA) and on the Donated Orthodontic Services committee for the American Association of Orthodontists (AAO). Dr. Raphael taught myofunctional orthodontics at the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine for 8 years and now teaches for the Airway Collaborative, an academy for practitioners learning to add airway thinking into their dental practices.

Disclosure: Dr. Raphael is the owner of the Raphael Center for Integrative Orthodontics and founder of the Raphael Center for Integrative Education.

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David Thome, DDS

Private Practice | Mooresville, North Carolina, USA

A native of Colorado, Dr. Thome graduated from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry in 2001. After seven years as a general dentist in Kansas City, Missouri, he decided to pursue his true passion for children's dentistry. He completed his pediatric dental residency at Nova Southeastern University and treated many patients at the Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital in Hollywood, Florida. Parents are the primary caregivers and it is our responsibility to educate and help in the growth and development of children. New procedures that make dentistry less invasive and contribute to overall health is the priority of Dr. Thome. Laser dentistry, HealthyStart, and Postural Blueprint are integral parts of his holistic approach. In 2019, the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) renewed Dr. Thome's fellowship and membership status, FAAPD. He also serves as a Diplomate to the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry.

Disclosure: Dr. Thome lectures for Fotona and receives a modest honorarium for these activities.

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Sharon Vallone, DC, FICCP

Private Practice | South Windsor, Connecticut, USA

Dr. Vallone is a graduate of Rutgers University and New York Chiropractic College. She completed her Diplomate in Clinical Chiropractic Pediatrics in 1996 through Palmer College and received her appointment as Fellow in Clinical Chiropractic Pediatrics in 2003. Dr. Vallone has a private practice limited to high-risk pregnancies and challenged children in Connecticut and is currently the Chair of the Board of Kentuckiana Children's Center in Louisville, KY, and past Vice Chair of the International Chiropractors Association's Council on Chiropractic Pediatrics. She is an international speaker, author, and editor of the *Journal of Clinical Chiropractic Pediatrics*. Dr. Vallone brings 33+ years of pediatric chiropractic experience with a primary interest in pregnancy, birth trauma, breastfeeding, and problems with infant/toddler neurodevelopment.

Disclosure: Dr. Vallone has reported no conflicts of interest.

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About the Academy

The Academy of Laser Dentistry (ALD) is a not-for-profit organization qualifying under Section 501c(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. ALD is an international, professional membership association of dental practitioners and supporting organizations dedicated to improving the health and well-being of patients through the proper use of laser technology. The Academy is dedicated to the advancement of knowledge, research, and education and to the exchange of information relative to the art and science of the use of lasers in dentistry. The Academy's official incorporation took place in 1993, following the merger of the American Academy of Laser Dentistry, the International Academy of Laser Dentistry, and the North American Academy of Laser Dentistry.

Mission of the Academy of Laser Dentistry

The ALD is committed to oral health through laser technology.

Intended Audience and Background Requirements for this Program

The intended audience includes dentists in general dentistry, pediatric dentistry, orthodontics and anyone interested in learning about lasers in dentistry as it relates to oral health and overall health from infancy to adulthood. The symposium is geared toward both novice and experienced practitioners who will share information about the use of lasers in dentistry. Unless specified otherwise, individuals attending the symposium are not required to have any previous knowledge or experience in laser dentistry, medicine, or surgery.

Disclosure of Speaker Commercial Relationships

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