

Frenotomy

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Frenotomy is a minor surgery used to treat tongue-tie (ankyloglossia).

Tongue-tie happens when the lingual frenulum (a band of tissue attached to the bottom of the tongue) is too short or tight. It is found at birth and can often affect breastfeeding.

Benefits

A frenotomy is quick and there is very little pain. This surgery will help improve tongue movement and breastfeeding.

Risks

Your health care provider will talk with you about any risks of a frenotomy.

The main risk is bleeding. This is rare. There is usually little to no bleeding.

During the Surgery

- Your baby will be gently held still during the surgery.
- His or her tongue will be raised with an index and middle finger or a tongue elevator.
- A small cut is made with a sterile scissors or scalpel.
- Gauze will be held on the cut for short time to stop any bleeding.

After the Surgery

Your baby can breastfeed right away after the surgery. Breastfeeding will provide comfort to your baby and help manage any pain. It will also help improve tongue movement.