

INTRODUCING
NEW TECHNOLOGY – NEW COMFORT!
A REVOLUTIONARY, GENTLER ALTERNATIVE TO TRADITIONAL GUM SURGERY:
THE WORLD’S FIRST FDA-CLEARED
LASER PERIODONTAL (GUM) DISEASE THERAPY: (LANAP®)

We take our gums for granted. Yet they’re the unsung heroes of our mouths. The soft cushion that nestles the teeth must be properly cared for as part of your regular regime to foster a healthy mind and body. Gingivitis, which is the beginning form of periodontal disease, can be remedied quite effectively with effective tooth brushing and flossing, combined with regular dental hygiene visits.

But when you are unable to prevent gum disease, medical treatment is the only option. In years past, your choices were only traditional gum surgery or scaling and root planing, which simply slows the progress of the disease.

Statistics indicate nearly 80 percent of Americans have some form of gum disease – and nearly 50% of cases are considered moderate or severe. Despite the prevalence of this silent disease, more than 97 percent of those in need refuse the traditional treatment of periodontal flap surgery and risk tooth loss and other health challenges as a result. Why? Patients report a perception that conventional “cut and sew” procedures are often painful, require weeks of healing – and worse, are largely ineffective at curing periodontal disease in the long term. Most people choose to go untreated year after year – in part, due to their fear of periodontal surgery.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

What is LPT--Laser Periodontal Therapy™ or LANAP®—Laser Assisted New Attachment Procedure?

Laser Periodontal Therapy™ is a laser based technique for the treatment of periodontal disease using the Millennium Dental Technologies, Inc., *PerioLase® MVP-7™ Digital Laser*. Fear of periodontal treatment vanishes when people find out no scalpel or sutures will be used. Patient friendly laser treatment helps people to agree to the treatment they need and continue with the follow-up care that is prescribed.

Because of Dr. Chellis’ ongoing commitment to your health, she is proud to be the first in the Seattle area to offer LANAP® or Laser Periodontal Therapy™ for the treatment of gingivitis and /or periodontitis. Following are commonly asked questions about this technology.

How does it work?

Tartar, associated with inflamed and bleeding gums, is removed from the root surface of the tooth using an ultrasonic scaler and small instruments.

Then, a small amount of light energy from a laser is directed through a tiny fiber – about the thickness of 3 strands of hair, which is gently placed between the gum and tooth. The laser removes only the diseased tissue and aids in reducing the bacteria associated with the disease, as well as stimulates your body’s own existing stem cells to grow new root surface coating and new connective tissue attachment to the root surface. All of this is done without making any type of incision.

After removing the diseased tissue, the laser immediately cauterizes the wound. The result is that you experience little to no bleeding. An added benefit of the laser is its ability to seal the nerve endings. The entire process results in only minor discomfort afterward.

After the area is thoroughly cleaned, the body can heal the area naturally.



Does it hurt?

Although the procedure itself can be virtually painless, we will anesthetize the area for your comfort. In this way we can precisely direct the laser for treatment. Post-procedure discomfort is typically minimal and of short duration.

How long does it take?

Initial treatment is focused on scaling and the use of small instruments to remove the tartar. Then, the laser portion of the treatment is performed and normally only takes a few minutes. Depending on the severity of the periodontal disease, treatment is usually accomplished in two office visits, plus follow-up post-operative visits to ensure your success. We will review the estimated treatment time with you when we discuss your treatment plan.

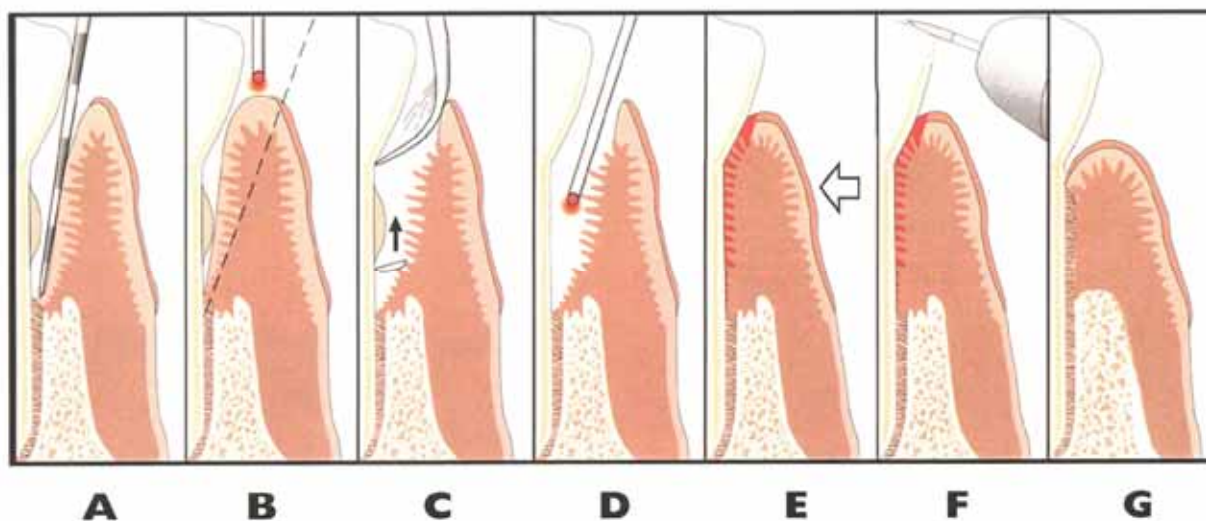
The ease of laser gum surgery translates into faster recovery. With an LANAP® procedure, many people return to work within a day.

Does this treatment cost more than traditional gum surgery?

Typically we use the same billing codes as traditional gum surgery and the laser treatment is generally no more expensive than traditional surgery. In fact, it is often less overall, since initial scaling and root planning does not need to be done before surgery.

There are other factors which include *less pain, less bleeding, less swelling, less tissue removed, less down time, and less recovery time which is decidedly less costly to you and your employer.* Many insurance plans pay for a portion of this treatment. We will be happy to discuss payment options with you as we offer financing for this treatment.

The dramatically increased comfort for our patients made the new system attractive to our office. The reasons Dr. Chellis chooses to use the LANAP® therapy are to remove only the diseased tissue without removing any of the healthy tissue, maintain the height of the tissue around your teeth, minimize pain and discomfort, get a tight bacterial-resistant closure of the periodontal pocket and allow healing to take place. Controlling periodontal disease makes it possible to save and restore otherwise hopelessly involved teeth.



- A. The perio probe indicates excessive pocket depth.
- B. Laser light kills diseased tissue and bacteria.
- C. Ultrasonic scaler and specialized hand instruments remove root tartar.
- D. Laser finishes cleaning and sterilizing pocket which aids in sealing the pocket closed so that new germs cannot enter.
- E. Reattachment of connective tissue to the clean root surface, with a stable fibrin clot and gingival crest to create a "closed" system.
- F. Bite trauma is adjusted.
- G. New attachment is regenerated. New bone and new ligament is formed and healing occurs.

