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NON-SURGICAL PERIODONTAL THERAPY
LASER ASSISTED NEW ATTACHMENT PROCEDURE (LANAP®)
LASER ASSISTED PERI-IMPLANTITIS PROCEDURE (LAPIP®)

Robert A. Levine, DDS, FCPP
Diplomate, American Board of Periodontology
Fellow, College of Physicians, Philadelphia, PA
Fellow, International Team for Implantology, Basel, Switzerland

Philip L. Fava II, DMD, MDSc
Member, International Team for Implantology, Basel, Switzerland

Einstein Center One • Suite 211-212
9880 Bustleton Avenue • Philadelphia, PA 19115
(215) 677-8686 • Fax (215) 677-7212
www.padentalimplants.com
Email info@padentalimplants.com

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**What is Periodontal Disease?**

Periodontal or gum disease is a bacterial infection of the gums, bone and supporting structures surrounding the teeth and the most common cause of tooth loss. Over half of all American adults have some form of periodontal disease. However, since the condition can be painless, the majority do not even realize they have it. If left untreated, symptoms can include:

- Gums that bleed when you brush or floss
- Red, swollen or tender gums
- Persistent bad breath or bad taste
- Formation of deep pockets between teeth and gums
- Loose, separating or shifting teeth
- Changes in the way teeth fit together when you bite

**How Can Periodontal Disease Affect the Rest of Your Body?**

Healthy hearts and healthy gums play vital roles in maintaining a healthy body. Because periodontal disease is a bacterial infection, periodontal bacteria can enter the blood stream and travel to major organs and cause new infections. The heart is one of the most susceptible organs. Recent studies suggest that people with periodontal disease are almost twice as likely to suffer from coronary artery disease and may have **twice the risk of having a fatal heart attack** as those without periodontal disease.

Periodontal disease has also been linked to numerous other health problems including diabetes, cancer, respiratory diseases, osteoporosis and premature and underweight births.

**What Options Are Available to Treat Periodontal Disease?**

In its initial stages, periodontal disease may be treated with deep cleaning (Scaling and Root Planing). In its more advanced stages, periodontal surgery may be necessary. Surgery often requires bone grafting and other materials to attempt to reverse and regenerate lost bone and soft tissue around teeth. There may be discomfort with periodontal surgery and a long recovery time.

Now, **Drs. Levine and Fava** are among the first leading-edge periodontists to offer their patients an alternative that is virtually pain free and evidence-based to reverse gum disease and re-grow bone around teeth. This treatment is called **Laser Assisted New Attachment Procedure or LANAP®**. The PerioLase MVP-7™ used is the only laser to receive FDA clearance for laser-based periodontal disease treatment.

**LANAP®: The Laser Alternative To Gum Surgery**

Dr. Robert A. Levine and Dr. Philip L. Fava are two of the few leading-edge periodontists in the region to offer a new, less traumatic treatment for periodontal disease. LANAP® (Laser Assisted New Attachment Procedure) utilizes safe and proven laser technology to gently remove harmful bacteria and diseased tissue from the gums. With this new, minimally invasive procedure, only the diseased tissue is removed, leaving behind only healthy gum tissue while maintaining the height of the tissue around the tooth. LANAP® controls periodontal disease and makes it possible to save and restore healthy teeth that may otherwise have to be extracted.

This removal of bacteria allows the body to heal naturally so the gum pockets improve and the teeth become more stable. Traditional periodontal disease treatment cuts away the infected tissues. But, with LANAP®, offered at the **Pennsylvania Center for Dental Implants and Periodontics**, **Drs. Levine and Fava** use the laser to painlessly remove diseased tissue and promote healing without the use of sutures. Laser gum disease treatment is **so minimally invasive that there are no incisions, no sutures, no pain and minimal bleeding**.

**How LANAP® Works**

**The LANAP® Protocol**

1. Perio probe indicates excessive pocket depth.
2. Laser light removes bacteria and diseased tissue.
3. Ultrasonic scaler and special hand instruments are used to remove root surface tartar.
4. Laser finishes cleaning pocket and aids in sealing the pocket closed so new germs cannot enter.
5. Healing of gums to clean root surface occurs.
6. Bite trauma is adjusted.
7. Healing occurs.

**WHY LANAP®? WHY LAPIP®?**

- Minimal discomfort during recovery
- Shorter procedure time
- Little to no gum recession
- No need to discontinue medications
- Minimally invasive
- 98% of laser treated patients remain stable after 5 years
- Greater predictability for reattachment of gum tissue and bone regeneration
- Reduced risk of infection, decreased sensitivity and less bleeding
- Can treat teeth/implants that are otherwise hopeless

**Dr. Robert A. Levine and Dr. Philip L. Fava**, fully trained and certified LANAP® periodontists, are proud to offer their patients this latest, state-of-the-art laser alternative to gum surgery. Additionally, a modification of the LANAP® procedure can be used to treat infections around implants. This procedure, **LAPIP®** (Laser Assisted Peri-Implantitis Procedure), like LANAP®, targets removing the infection and helps to regrow bone.

Laser treatment is also beneficial for patients who have medical problems requiring medications such as aspirin, Plavix and Coumadin. Since LANAP® causes much less bleeding than traditional surgeries; patients **do not have to discontinue their normal drug regimen prior to surgery**. Patients with advanced periodontal disease who take bisphosphonates, such as Fosamax, can avoid extractions that can lead to osteonecrosis of the jaw because teeth with a poor prognosis can now often be saved by treatment with the new laser. LANAP® is also safe for patients with HIV, hemophilia or diabetes.