

Lip Taping

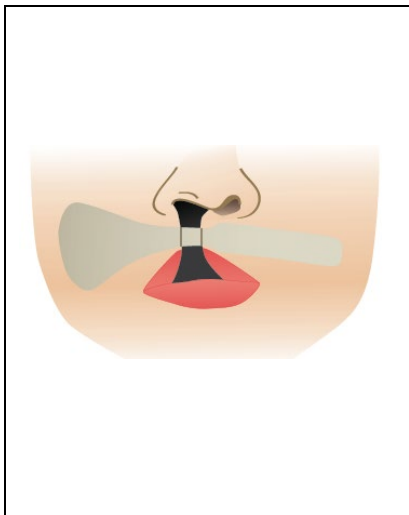
What is lip taping?

Lip taping is a process that helps to narrow the distance between the parts of a cleft lip. Lip taping helps bring your child's gums, lips, and muscles closer together before their surgery. This will help decrease the amount of tension (pulling) on their repaired cleft after surgery.

How do I do lip taping?

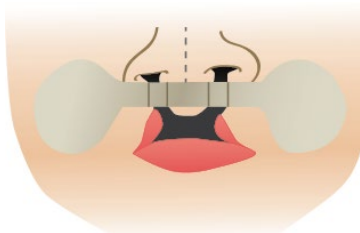
Start by putting a piece of DuoDERM® on both of your child's cheeks, close to their nose. This is what you will put the Steri-Strips™ on (so that if you replace the Steri-Strip™ often, you don't have to remove the tape from your child's skin).

Lip taping on a unilateral (single-sided) cleft lip:



1. Take the Steri-Strip™ and put it on the DuoDERM® on the non-cleft side, or the “greater segment.”
2. Pull the Steri-Strip™ over to the cleft side, or the “lesser segment.” You can gently bring the segments together using your thumb and index finger.
3. Place the Steri-Strip™ on the DuoDERM® on the other side.

Lip taping on a bilateral (both sides) cleft lip:

	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Start on one side and put the Steri-Strip™ on the DuoDERM®.2. Gently bring the segments together using your thumb and index finger.3. Pull the Steri-Strip™ across to the pre-maxilla (the gum pad that will eventually hold their 2 front teeth) and then down onto the other side's DuoDERM®.
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How should I feed my baby with lip tape?

You can feed your child like normal with their lip taped. They can sleep, play, and eat with the tape in place. If the tape gets wet, or if it starts to loosen or come off, you may need to replace it to keep the right amount of tension on the lip segments.

How often should my child wear the lip tape?

We recommend trying to keep the tape on for 22-23 hours a day. We will have you do lip taping until your child gets their lip adhesion or repair surgery. These surgeries are usually done when your child is about 3-4 months old.

Who do I contact for more information about lip taping?

If you have any questions or concerns, please call us at (734) 998-6022 or send us a message through the online patient portal (MyUofMHealth.org).

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