

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Assessment Tool for Lingual Frenulum Function (ATLFF)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">© Alison K. Hazelbaker, PhD, IBCLC April 21, 2012</p>	<p>Mothers name: _____</p> <p>Baby's name: _____</p> <p>Baby's age: _____</p> <p>Date of assessment: _____</p>
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FUNCTION ITEMS	
<p>Lateralization</p> <p>2 Complete</p> <p>1 Body of tongue but not tongue tip</p> <p>0 None</p> <p>Lift of tongue</p> <p>2 Tip to mid-mouth</p> <p>1 Only edges to mid mouth</p> <p>0 Tip stays at alveolar ridge OR tip rises only to mid-mouth with jaw closure AND/OR mid-tongue dimples</p> <p>Extension of tongue</p> <p>2 Tip over lower lip</p> <p>1 Tip over lower gum only</p> <p>0 Neither of the above OR anterior or mid-tongue humps and/or dimples</p> <p>Spread of anterior tongue</p> <p>2 Complete</p> <p>1 Moderate OR partial</p> <p>0 Little OR none</p>	<p>Cupping of tongue</p> <p>2 Entire edge, firm cup</p> <p>1 Side edges only, moderate cup</p> <p>0 Poor OR no cup</p> <p>Peristalsis (progressive contraction)</p> <p>2 Complete anterior to posterior (originates at tip)</p> <p>1 Partial: originating posterior to tip</p> <p>0 None OR Reverse peristalsis</p> <p>Snap back</p> <p>2 None</p> <p>1 Periodic</p> <p>0 Frequent OR with each suck</p>

APPEARANCE ITEMS	
<p>Appearance of tongue when lifted</p> <p>2 Round OR square</p> <p>1 Slight cleft in tip apparent</p> <p>0 Heart shaped</p> <p>Length of lingual frenulum when tongue lifted</p> <p>2 More than 1 cm OR absent frenulum</p> <p>1 1 cm</p> <p>0 Less than 1 cm</p> <p>Attachment of lingual frenulum to inferior alveolar ridge</p> <p>2 Attached to floor of mouth OR well below ridge</p> <p>1 Attached just below ridge</p> <p>0 Attached to ridge</p>	<p>Elasticity of lingual frenulum</p> <p>2 Very elastic (excellent)</p> <p>1 Moderately elastic</p> <p>0 Little OR no elasticity</p> <p>Attachment of lingual frenulum to tongue</p> <p>2 Posterior to tip</p> <p>1 At tip</p> <p>0 Notched OR under the mucosa at the tongue base</p>

SCORING

Function Item score: _____

Combined Score: _____ / _____

Appearance Item score: _____

Treatment Recommendations Based on Scoring

14 = Perfect Function score regardless of Appearance Item score. Surgical treatment not recommended.

11 = Acceptable Function score only if Appearance Item score is 10.

<11 = Function Score indicates function impaired. Frenotomy should be considered if management fails. Frenotomy necessary if Appearance Item score is < 8.