

## CHAMPVA POLICY MANUAL

CHAPTER: 2  
SECTION: 5.6  
TITLE: SURGERY FOR TONGUE-TIE (ANKYLOGLOSSIA)

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**AUTHORITY:** 38 CFR 17.270(a) and 17.272(a)

**RELATED AUTHORITY:** 32 CFR 199.4(c)(1), (g)(1), and (g)(15)

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### I. EFFECTIVE DATE

November 1, 1983

### II. PROCEDURE CODE(S)

40806, 40819, 41010, 41115, and 41520

### III. DESCRIPTION

Tongue-tied (ankyloglossia) is a condition in which there is a greater than normal fusion of the forepart of the tongue with the floor of the mouth. The fusion may be partial or total. To release the tongue-tie, a surgical procedure is sometimes performed. The procedure may be referred to as a lingual frenectomy, frenulectomy, frenotomy, or a frenoplasty.

### IV. POLICY

Surgery for tongue-tie is not covered except in cases where total or complete ankyloglossia is documented. There is considerable lack of objective data and disagreement regarding the need for surgery in cases of partial tongue-tie. The procedure for other than total tongue-tie is considered unnecessary and of no medical value.

**\*END OF POLICY\***