



## Lasers in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery: A Brief Overview

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Laser is produced by emission of intense light beam from light source. It is a monochromatic and intense beam of light emitted as a radiation from a light source. The word "LASER" represents "Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation" [1-4,6].

Laser is an office-based procedure. It is a small and portable device as well as its manipulation is very easy. Hence, Laser application has gained popularity among dental practitioners [7]. Various types of lasers are used in the field of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. Lasers like CO<sub>2</sub> lasers, Nd: YAG, Diode lasers, Er: YAG and Cr: YSGG are used for treating various oral pathologies [4].

In the field of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, lasers are having wide applications and they prove beneficial too. Lasers can be used for treating oral mucosal lesions, oral leukoplakia, Lichen planus, gingival melanin pigmentation, Fordyce granules, Oral dysplasia, Premalignant lesions, Oral melanoma, pre-prosthetic surgeries. Lasers can also be used for the management of benign lesions like Mucocele, Ranula, Pyogenic granuloma, gingival hyperplastic lesions, Epulis fissuratum, Lymphangioma, Hemangioma and oral cavity cancers. Laser application is also useful in various surgeries like excisional biopsy, management of venous malformations, Osteonecrosis of jaws, Endodontic surgeries, Firerom. Lasers are also beneficial for treating ankyloglossia and complications after the extraction of impacted third molars. Laser can also be use in temporomandibular joint (TMJ) surgeries and dental implantology. Laser application is having various advantages like, minimal trauma, decreased postoperative swelling, improved tissue healing [6-10].

Lasers are having very much varied and beneficial applications in the field of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. And its important for every dental practitioner and Oral and Maxillofacial surgeon to master the technique of lasers [3-5].

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