# DEVELOPMENT OF A STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR THE APPLICATION OF LOW-INTENSITY LASER THERAPY IN THE TREATMENT OF NIPPLE TRAUMA IN LACTATING WOMEN



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# **OBJECTIVE**

To develop a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the use of Low-Level Laser Therapy (LLLT) in the treatment of nipple trauma in lactating women.

## **METHODS**

This is a report of a technological innovation from an educational intervention derived developed for a healthcare service that assists women with nipple trauma during the lactation period, to be implemented by nurses in a municipal health department. The study was the result of activities from a doctoral course conducted between September and October 2024. The proposal aimed to foster a critical perspective on an existing process in the students' workplace and to propose an improvement capable of generating a product eligible for copyright registration. The topic was chosen based on a service need identified by one of the authors—the implementation of Low-Level Laser Therapy for nipple trauma lactating women at a Polyclinic, following the institution's purchase of the equipment. The project involved the following stages: literature review, SOP development, expert validation, institutional approval, and copyright registration.





## **RESULTS**

The SOP is a quality management tool designed to standardize the execution of fundamental systematically and sequentially describing each critical step of a technicalassistance activity. Its application aims to minimize deviations and variations the performance tasks, such of promoting excellence in service delivery and ensuring consistent, expected outcomes. Therefore, after conducting a literature review, the SOP was developed based on current scientific evidence, national guidelines, and recommendations from specialized societies. It provides a standardized, step-by-step guide for the application of Low-Level Laser Therapy in the treatment of nipple trauma in lactating women. The document was reviewed by two nurses—one a stomatherapist certified in LLLT, and the other specialized in women's health and also certified in LLLT. After adjustments, it was submitted to the institution's lead technical nurse for feedback and implementation. To legally protect the authors as the intellectual creators of the SOP, document was registered as a published work with the Brazilian Book Chamber.

### CONCLUSION

The development of this SOP highlights the importance of standardizing practices to ensure maternal safety and the continuity of breastfeeding. It also strengthens the nurse's autonomy in prescribing and applying Low-Level Laser Therapy, integrating technology into clinical practice. The SOP format allows it to be a dynamic tool, subject to revisions and continuous improvement.

**Keywords:** Stomatherapy, Low Intensity Light Therapy, Nipples, Breast Feeding, Quality of Health Care

