

# Treatment Strategies for the Improvement of Oral, Pharyngeal, Feeding/Swallowing, and Respiratory Coordination Function:

## The Child with Neuromuscular Involvement Rona Alexander, PhD, CCC-SLP, BCS-S, C/NDT

### Faculty

Rona Alexander, PhD, CCC-SLP, BCS-S, C/NDT is a speech-language pathologist specializing in the assessment and treatment of oral, pharyngeal, feeding/ swallowing, and respiratory coordination function from infants, children, adolescents, and young adults with primary neuromuscular and musculoskeletal systems impairments. She maintains a private practice; provides consultation services; provides short-term treatment intensives, and conducts workshops /courses/seminars/webinars on oral movement, oral sensory, feeding /swallowing, and rib cage/ respiratory coordination development, assessment, and treatment. As a qualified active speech instructor in Neuro-Developmental Treatment (NDT), Dr. Alexander teaches in basic pediatric certificate courses and advanced NDT courses. She has contributed chapters on oral, pharyngeal, feeding/swallowing, and rib cage/respiratory coordination function to numerous publications; is co-author of the book entitled, *Normal Development of Functional Motor Skills: The First Year of Life*; is author of the CEU product, *Focus on the Rib Cage for Improvement of Respiration, Phonation, Movement, and Postural Control*; and is co-developer of the CEU product, *The ABCs of Pediatric Feeding and Swallowing*.

*Financial: Rona Alexander receives a speaking fee from Education Resources as well as royalty payments from Clinician's View and a co-author of the book published by The Hammill Institute on Disabilities. Non-Financial: She is a member of the NDTA and the NDTA Instructor Group.*

### About this Course

This course delivers clinically relevant assessment and treatment strategies for infants and children with neuromuscular impairments and challenges to their oral pharyngeal, feeding/swallowing and respiratory function. Special emphasis is on postural alignment and control as well as on sensory factors that can influence a child's feeding and swallowing. Effective treatment strategies to improve cheeks/lips, tongue, jaw, pharyngeal and rib cage function will be highlighted. Participants will engage in extensive clinical problem-solving via group case analysis and patient demonstration sessions.

### Objectives

Participants will be able to apply course learning immediately to:

- Clinically assess oral pharyngeal, feeding/swallowing and respiratory coordination function in infants and young children
- Detail the essential components of comprehensive intervention programming for young children with neuromuscular involvement
- Implement effective body alignment/positioning for the modification of oral, pharyngeal, and respiratory function in intervention programming
- Perform treatment strategies to improve the function of the cheeks/lips, tongue, and jaw in children with neuromuscular involvement

### Audience

Professionals who have a foundation of knowledge in the components of typical and atypical oral, pharyngeal, feeding/swallowing, respiratory, and general movement development. Participants should have practical experience in providing assessment and treatment services for infants and children with neuromuscular involvement who exhibit problems in oral motor, oral sensory, pharyngeal, feeding, swallowing, phonatory, and respiratory coordination function.

## Schedule – Day 1 9:10am - 5:00pm EST (US)

<b>9:10-9:30</b>	Webinar Registration/Zoom Course Opens
<b>9:30-9:45</b>	Introduction/Discussion of Workshop Plan
<b>9:45-11:30</b>	Primary Areas Influencing a Child's Feeding and Swallowing Function <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oral Issues</li> <li>• Pharyngeal Issues</li> <li>• Gastrointestinal Issues</li> <li>• Respiratory/Airway Issues</li> <li>• Behavioral Management Issues</li> </ul>
<b>11:30-11:45</b>	Break
<b>11:45-1:30</b>	Primary Areas Influencing Function (cont.)
<b>1:30-2:00</b>	Lunch
<b>2:00-3:30</b>	Comprehensive Oral, Pharyngeal, Feeding/Swallowing, and Respiratory Coordination Assessment and Intervention Program Development
<b>3:30-3:45</b>	Break
<b>3:45-5:00</b>	Treatment Strategies: The Influences of Body Movements and Postural Alignment on Oral, Pharyngeal, and Rib Cage/Respiratory Function <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Therapeutic Handling in Direct Treatment</li> <li>• Body Alignment and Positioning for Improved Oral Function</li> </ul>

## Schedule – Day 2 9:10am - 5:00pm EST (US)

<b>9:10-9:30</b>	Webinar Registration/Zoom Course Opens
<b>9:30-11:30</b>	Treatment Strategies: The Influences of Body Movements... (cont.)
<b>11:30-11:45</b>	Break
<b>11:45-1:30</b>	Preparation of the Oral Mechanism for Function
<b>1:30-2:00</b>	Lunch
<b>2:00-3:30</b>	Mealtime Feeding Strategies and Treatment Strategies: Sensory Influences, Utensils, Presentation, Timing, and Modifying Oral and Pharyngeal Function
<b>3:30-3:45</b>	Break
<b>3:45-5:00</b>	Mealtime Feeding Strategies and Treatment Strategies (cont.) Wrap-Up

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— Melissa E, SLP

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### Credits

This course meets the criteria for 13 contact hours (1.3) CEUs, Intermediate Level.



Education Resources Inc. is an AOTA Approved Provider of professional development. Provider #3043. This Distance Learning-Interactive course is offered at 13 contact hours 1.3 CEUs. Intermediate level, OT Service Delivery. AOTA does not endorse specific course content, products, or clinical procedures.

This course can be used toward your NBCOT renewal requirements for 13 units.

Approved provider of the **FL** Board of Occupational Therapy-CE Broker 15.5 hours.

This course meets the approval of the **TX** Board of OT Examiners.



**Education Resources, Inc.**  
Intermediate Level  
1.2 ASHA CEUs

ASHA CE Provider approval and use of the Brand Block does not imply endorsement of course content, specific products or clinical procedures.

This program has been submitted for approval of 13 clock hours of continuing education credit by the **TX** Speech Language-Hearing-Association (TSHA). TSHA approval does not imply endorsement of course content, specific products or clinical procedures.

Most Physical Therapy State Boards accept webinars as a live offering. Please check with your state board to confirm.

Approved by the **FL** Physical Therapy Association for 15.5 continuing education contact hours.

This course meets the basic criteria of the **MD** Board of Physical Therapy Examiners for 1.3 CEU's

Approved by the **MN** Board of Physical Therapy.

Approved by the **NJ** Board of Physical Therapy Examiners.

Approved sponsor by the State of **IL** Department of Financial and Professional Regulation for Physical Therapy for 15.5 contact hours. Application has been made to Illinois EI Training Program.

Approved provider by the **NY** State Board of Physical Therapy for 15.6 contact hours (1.56 CEUs).

Education Resources, Inc. is an approved provider for Physical Therapy CEUs in the following states: **CA, KY, OK and TX.**

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The following state boards of physical therapy either do not require course pre-approval or do not require CEUs for re-licensure: **AL, CO, CT, IA, ME, MT, NE, ND, NH, SD, WA.**

13 hours of this course qualify towards the discipline-specific hours for the 20-hour requirement for NDTA re-certification. They do NOT qualify towards the 8-hour NDTA Instructor requirement for re-certification.

Dietitians will receive 13 hours.

Education Resources Inc. 266 Main St, Medfield, MA 02052. Please contact us with any special-needs requests: [info@educationresourcesinc.com](mailto:info@educationresourcesinc.com) or 800-487-6530.

### Webinar Dates and Times

December 11 and 12, 2022

9:10 am EST • 8:10 am CST • 7:10 am MST • 6:10 am PST (US)

Registration is for both sessions. Zoom log-in instructions and course materials will be emailed/added to your ERI account 5-7 days prior to the first date of the Webinar.



\$369 fee. LIMITED ENROLLMENT. Cancellation will be accepted until 14 days prior to the start date of the course, minus a \$75 Administration Fee. There will be NO REFUNDS after this 14-day deadline. We encourage you to register online!

**Treatment Strategies for the Improvement of Oral, Pharyngeal, Feeding/Swallowing, and Respiratory Coordination Function - Rona Alexander**  
 December 11 and 12, 2022

**Course Registration Form**

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Needed in the event of an emergency scheduling change

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Education Resources reserves the right to cancel any course due to insufficient registration or extenuating circumstances. Please do not make non-refundable travel arrangements until you have called us and received confirmation that the course will be held. We are not responsible for any expenses incurred by participants if the course must be cancelled.

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