

Pediatric Feeding and Swallowing Disorders: Bridging the Clinical Decision-Making Gaps with Interactive Case Studies

Dana Kizer, OT and Anais Villaluna, SLP

Faculty

Dana Kizer is an OT who has a special interest in feeding and sensory processing. She has worked in a variety of pediatric settings including a pediatric hospital, specialty clinic, private practice, and home health. Dana has presented on feeding therapy and interventions nationally and across virtual platforms. Dana is a published author on the subject of pediatric feeding disorders. She currently volunteers her time with Feeding Matters by serving on the Family Advisory Council to help families navigate the complex world of pediatric feeding disorders.

Anais Villaluna is an SLP, Board Certified Specialist in Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders, and Certified Lactation Counselor. Anais has specialized training in a variety of feeding and swallowing interventions methods, instrumental assessment of swallowing via VFSS and FEES, breast and bottle feeding, Passy Muir Valve, and dysphagia management with tracheostomy and ventilator dependent individuals. She practices in a variety of pediatric settings including pediatric hospital inpatient, pediatric hospital outpatient, multidisciplinary specialty clinics with gastroenterology and otolaryngology, and private practice. Co-lead of the Pediatric Committee for the IDDSI USIRG, she has an interest in the standardization of thickened liquids in the pediatric population.

About this Course

Through interactive case studies, this brief course will guide your decision-making process of complex pediatric feeding and swallowing cases to BRIDGE the gap between the developmental, neurological, physiological, motor, sensory, and behavioral components.

Learning Objectives

- Choose an appropriate and evidence-based tool to use when working with infants, toddlers, and children with pediatric feeding and swallowing disorders.
- Distinguish between the benefits and limitations in current best practices including positioning, thickening, treatment of dysphagia, and both clinical as well as instrumental assessment.
- Determine when and why to apply strategies when managing pediatric dysphagia based on presenting impairment and response to intervention during interactive case studies.

Disclosure: Anais Villaluna receives a salary from Texas Children's Hospital and Feeding and Swallowing Specialists of The Woodlands. She receives a speaking honorarium from Education Resources, Inc. She has a non-financial relationship with IDDSI (International Dysphagia Diet Standardization Initiative) as a US IRG Pediatric Co-Chair, Communication Committee Member. She has a non-financial relationship with Feeding Matters as a volunteer for Digital Outreach Committee.

Disclosure: Dana Kizer receives a salary from Texas Children's Hospital and Feeding and Swallowing Specialists of The Woodlands. She receives a speaking honorarium from Education Resources, Inc. She has a non-financial relationship with Feeding Matters as a volunteer for Family Advisory Committee.

Schedule 10:30 am – 12:00 pm EST (US)

Introduction to the BRIDGE Process through Case Studies

The BRIDGE Process

- **BRIDGE:** Begin, Reflect, Initiate, Develop, Gauge, Educate
- Learn how to think critically and make informed, evidence-based decisions when treating children with feeding disorders

Begin: initial and ongoing assessment

- Feeding and swallowing assessment
 - Case Study Example: Where to begin

Reflect: on multifactorial aspects of feeding/swallowing problem

- Clinical Assessment of Feeding and Swallowing: Integrating your findings and determining need for further assessment
 - Case Study Example: Complex medical histories

Initiate: plan of care – writing patient goals

- Documentation components
- Measurable and Functional Goals: Challenges and Pitfalls
 - Case Study Example: Writing goals that are functional, measurable, and insurance friendly

Develop: recommendations and intervention strategies based on patient goals

- Current practices in treating pediatric dysphagia: Advantages & limitations
- Treatment recommendations
 - Case Study Example: Strategies to utilize based on presenting impairments

Gauge: progress in therapy

- *BRIDGE* Considerations for transitioning between approaches based on response to intervention.
 - Case Study Example: Feeling stuck, where to go next

Educate: patient, family, and medical/therapy team members

- Controversial recommendations in assessment
 - Case Study Example: Tethered oral tissues

Continue Your Learning

Interested in continuing your learning with Dana Kizer, OT and Anais Villaluna, SLP? Delve deeper into their 2-day intensive course **Feeding Challenges in Infants, Toddlers and Beyond: Learn Critical Thinking Skills to Safely Manage Difficult Feeding and Swallowing Cases – The BRIDGE Approach** available on the following dates:

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- December 9 – 10, 2023

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Credits

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1.5 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.

Please contact us with any special-needs requests: info@educationresourcesinc.com or call 800-487-6530. Education Resources Inc. 266 Main St, Suite 12, Medfield, MA 02052.

Webinar Date and Time

June 24, 2023

10:10am EST • 9:10am CST • 8:10am MST • 7:10am PST

Registration is for one session. Zoom log-in instructions and course materials will be emailed/added to your ERI account 5-7 days prior to the webinar.