

# Assessment and Intervention with the High-Risk Infant in the NICU and During the Transition to Home

Roberta Pineda, PhD, ORT

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## Faculty

**Bobbi Pineda, PhD, OTR/L** is a renowned clinician, research scientist, and dynamic speaker with an interest in developing interventions that optimize neurodevelopmental outcomes in high risk newborn infants, specifically born prematurely. With more than 20 years clinical experience as a NICU based occupational therapist, she is involved in defining and implementing interventions with families and NICU staff. Her research focuses on improving outcomes and therapy after discharge, neonatal feeding, and neonatal product development. She is a certified trainer of NNNS, certified in the advanced use of Prechtl's GMA and in NOMAS. She is also the mother of three prematurely born children

**Kristen Connell DPT, PCS, PT** specializes in pediatrics working with infants born preterm in a variety of settings, including in the NICU, developmental follow up clinic, inpatient care, outpatient clinic, and in-home early childhood intervention services. Kristen has worked at several acclaimed hospitals and believes our greatest impact to improve outcomes in infants born prematurely starts with providing optimal developmental care and empowering and supporting parents in the NICU.

Disclosure: Financial: Pineda receives a speaking fee from ERI and has financial relationships with Washington University, Premie-Pacer, LLC, Brown University and NTNCB. Connell receives an honorarium from ERI for teaching this workshop. Non-Financial: Pineda has a nonfinancial relationship with NTNCB. Connell has no relevant non-financial relationships to disclose.

## About this Course

This two-day course will focus on practical strategies to address behavioral, developmental and feeding assessment and intervention with high risk infants in the NICU. Factors related to parenting, the NICU environment, and the effects of altered sensory and motor experiences will be explored. Through video analysis, demonstration and case examples, participants will practice their assessment and clinical problem-solving skills for this specialized setting. Participants will enhance their observational and clinical skills, improving early identification of therapeutic needs that define targeted collaborative interventions in the NICU and during the transition home.

## Objectives

- 1 Identify evidence that can drive neonatal therapy practice
- 2 Discuss key elements of behavioral, developmental and feeding assessment for high risk infants in the NICU and at home
- 3 Demonstrate collaborative assessment strategies used with high risk infants in the NICU, including components of the Dubowitz Optimality Scale, the NICU Network Neurobehavioral Scale (NNNS), the Premie-Neuro and the Neonatal Eating Outcome Scale
- 4 Incorporate assessment and evidence-based treatment strategies appropriate at different postmenstrual ages and across different medical interventions, including therapeutic positioning, therapeutic use of parents, therapeutic handling, and sensory-motor activities that improve function and developmental skills

## Audience

This course is appropriate for Beginning and Intermediate level neonatal therapists (Physical, Occupational Speech Therapists and Dietitians) or those interested in working with newborns.

Help your patients achieve better outcomes.

## Schedule – Day 1

- 7:30-8:00** Registration/Continental Breakfast
- 8:00-10:00** Determine collaborative interventions for the high-risk infant  
Defining your threshold for starting and stopping therapies when things don't go as planned  
Medical complications and interventions  
Individual needs of each infant  
Infant development in the NICU
- 10:00-12:00** Prevention and enrichment strategies for the preterm infant in the NICU including use of the Supporting and Enhancing NICU Sensory Experiences (SENSE) guideline  
Positioning including how to find the positioning equipment you need; environmental adaptation; sensory stimulation  
Hands on demonstration; video
- 12:00-1:00** Lunch (on your own)
- 1:00-3:00** Prevention and enrichment strategies for the preterm infant in the NICU including use of the Supporting and Enhancing NICU Sensory Experiences (SENSE) guideline  
Positioning including how to find the positioning equipment you need; environmental adaptation; sensory stimulation  
Hands on demonstration; video
- 3:00-4:30** Identifying infant and caregiver strengths and enhancing caregiver participation in the NICU and at home  
Supporting the parents of the high risk infant

## Schedule – Day 2

- 7:30-8:00** Continental Breakfast
- 8:00-12:00** Essential components of neonatal feeding evaluation; determining infant readiness for oral feeding  
Video; case examples  
Finding the feeding equipment, you need to address the individual needs of a high-risk infant  
Neonatal feeding evaluation tools including the Neonatal Eating Outcome Assessment  
Setting the stage for lifelong feeding by providing optimal sensory experiences
- 12:00-1:00** Lunch (on your own)
- 1:00-2:30** Targeted research-based interventions conducted in the NICU and conducted at home
- 2:30-4:00** Pulling it all together: Supporting families and enhancing infant behavior and development in the NICU and during the transition home; optimizing outcomes after discharge  
Video; Case examples; Group discussion

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## Credits

This course meets the criteria for 13.5 contact hours (1.35 CEUs). Application has been made to the **NJ** Boards of Physical Therapy Examiners. The **AZ, PA, GA, KS and MO** Boards of Physical Therapy accept other board's approvals. Approved by the **KY** Physical Therapy Association. This workshop meets excepted standards for continuing competence as outlined by the **CT** General Statutes. ERI is an approved agency by the PT Board of **CA**.

Approved provider by the **NY** State Board of Physical Therapy for 16.2 contact hours.



Approved provider of continuing education by the American Occupational Therapy Association #3043, for 14 contact hours - Intermediate Level Occupational Therapy Process: assessment, intervention. The assignment of AOTA CEU's does not imply endorsement of specific course content, products or clinical procedures by AOTA.



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This course is offered for up to 1.4 ASHA CEUs (Intermediate level, Professional area). This course meets the criteria for 14 hours towards NTNCB Neonatal Therapy certification NBCOT professional development provider - 14 PDUs

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## Locations and Dates - 2019

Oct 18-19	Instructor Connell	Kansas City, MO	Children's Mercy Hospital
Nov 15-16	Instructor Pineda	Valhalla, NY	Blythedale Children's Hospital
Dec 7-8	Instructor Pineda	Glendale, CA	USC Verdugo Hills Hospital



\$435 fee. Group rate (3 or more) must be mailed/faxed together \$410. Deadline for registration is 3 weeks prior to course. Registration will be accepted after deadline on a space available basis. Cancellation accepted up until 2 weeks before course, minus an administration fee of \$75. NO REFUNDS WITHIN 2 WEEKS OF COURSE.

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Limited enrollment. We encourage you to register online!

**Assessment and Intervention**

Oct/MO/Connell  Nov/NY/Pineda  Dec/CA/Pineda

**Course Registration Form**

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City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

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Needed in the event of an emergency scheduling change

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