

Handling Interventions: Using NDT to Increase Function and Participation in Children

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Faculty

Bethanne N. Mazurczak, MS, CCC-SLP, C/NDT has been a practicing clinician since 1990, specializing in the pediatric rehabilitation of infants, children and adolescents. Bethanne has a wide range of experience in working with children of all ages with neurological and developmental disabilities. She is certified in Neuro-Developmental Treatment, SOS Feeding and is currently completing the process as an NDT Candidate Instructor for the NDTA. Bethanne continues to serve the pediatric population with oral- motor/feeding and swallowing as well as communication disorders through her practice as a Speech Pathologist and is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee.

Leslie Paparsenos, PT, MS, C/NDT is an independent, pediatric therapy provider, licensed Physiotherapist in Australia, and licensed Physical Therapist in the United States of America. She specializes in evidenced based, pediatric rehabilitation, serving babies, children and adolescents across a spectrum of neurological and developmental disabilities, and their families. Leslie is a certified Pediatric NDTATM (USA) Instructor, certified in NeuroDevelopmental Treatment (NDTATM (USA)), and a certified clinical instructor by the APTA (USA). She has been teaching both internationally and nationally since 2007.

About this Live Webinar

Children with cerebral palsy and other neuromuscular disorders seeking improved outcomes rely on providers with accurate assessment skills, sound clinical decision-making and precisely designed interventions. Through instruction, demonstration and hands-on lab work, participants will be able to select intervention strategies, including handling techniques, that facilitate children's participation in meaningful daily activities. The Neuro-Developmental Treatment Practice Model will serve as the framework for evaluation and clinical decision making to guide precise treatments for feeding, communication, mobility, ADLs and motor outcomes. As participants complete task analyses of video scenarios, they will be able to design interventions that are functional and goal-directed for the child. During lab work, participants will develop and improve clinical handling skills that impact posture, alignment and movement. Subsequent changes in oral, pharyngeal and respiratory function, along with changes in movement lead to improved participation and functional outcomes for the child. Participants will be able to implement newly learned skills the next day!

Learning Objectives

At the completion of this webinar participants will be able to:

- Apply basic NDT facilitation/handling techniques to impact function and participation in children.
- Demonstrate the NDT concepts of facilitation/handling and key points of control as it relates to feeding, communication, ADLs, gross and fine motor skills.
- Apply the ICF model when assessing a video patient/ treatment demonstration.
- Select a handling technique to address decreased sustaining postural muscle activation.
- Choose an evidence informed intervention strategy to address poor head control.
- Determine a handling technique to facilitate improved functional mobility and/or participation in the home.
- Modify a treatment plan to address increased tone in a child with cerebral palsy.
- Select an appropriate assessment tool to evaluate a child's ability to participate in functional activities.

Schedule – Day 1 8:40 am - 5:30 pm EST (US)

8:40-9:00	Webinar Registration/Zoom Course Opens
9:00-9:15	Round Table Discussion: Clarifying terms and definitions
9:15-11:00	The Essence of the NDT Practice Model - How to use it!
11:00-11:15	Break
11:15-12:00	LAB 1: Video Assessment OR Treatment Demonstration*
12:00-1:00	LAB 2: Facilitation Techniques 1 - Handling, sensory impact of handling, handling for bed mobility
1:00-1:30	Lunch (on your own)
1:30-1:45	Round Table Discussion: Pulling it all together
1:45-3:45	Therapeutic Principles for Posture and Movement Muscles
3:45-4:00	Break
4:00-5:30	LAB 3: Facilitation Techniques 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Head control, upright postural control, breathing for communication and feeding, and oral motor control.

Audience

This course is intended for OTs, COTAs, PTs, PTAs, SLPs with no background knowledge of NDT who work with Pediatric, Birth-Three, Early Intervention and School (ages 3-21) populations.

Schedule – Day 2 8:40 am - 5:30 pm EST (US)

8:40-9:00	Webinar Registration/Zoom Course Opens
9:00-9:30	Round table discussion: Problem solving road blocks
9:30-11:30	LAB 4: Facilitation Techniques 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Prone to prop, prone prop to sitting, prone prop to quadruped, sit to stand
11:30-11:45	Break
11:45-1:00	LAB 5: Video Assessment 2 and Problem Solving OR Treatment Demonstration *
1:00-1:30	Lunch (on your own)
1:30-3:15	Treatment Principles for Children with Cerebral Palsy <ul style="list-style-type: none">Treatment related to motor planning, alignment, base of support, balance and coordination.
3:15-3:30	Break
3:30-5:30	LAB 6: Small Group Problem Solving <ul style="list-style-type: none">Putting it all together with video patients and group presentations

Disclosures

Financial: Bethanne Mazurczak has a financial relationship with the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (employment) and receives an honorarium from Education Resources, Inc.
Non-Financial: Bethanne Mazurczak has no relevant non-financial relationships to disclose.

Financial: Leslie Paparsenos receives an honorarium from Education Resources, Inc.

Non-Financial: Leslie Paparsenos has no relevant non-financial relationships to disclose.

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Webinar Dates and Times

May 28 and 29, 2026

8:40 am EST • 7:40 am CST • 6:40 am MST • 5:40 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.



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