

The SOFFI MethodSM:

Supporting Oral Feeding in Fragile Infants NICU and EI

Erin Sundseth Ross, PhD, CCC-SLP

Faculty

Erin Ross, PhD, CC-SLP is the creator of the SOFFI MethodSM 2008, recommended by the National Association of Neonatal Nurses to be used in conjunction with their feeding guidelines. For more than 20 years she has specialized in the development of feeding skills in medically fragile children. Her research focuses on the etiology and treatment of feeding and growth problems in infants and children. Dr. Ross holds a master's degree in Speech and Language Pathology and received a doctoral degree in Clinical Sciences – Health Services Research from the University of Colorado. Dr. Ross is a Clinical Instructor in the School of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, at the University of Colorado, a faculty member of Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions, works in the NICU within several HealthONE hospitals and at SOS Feeding Solutions clinic in Denver. She is also the president and CEO of Feeding FUNDamentals, LLC.

Disclosure: Financial: Erin Ross receives a honorarium from ERI, is a paid consultant for Nestle Infant Nutrition (Gerber division) and a paid speaker for STAR Institute for Sensory Processing Disorder. Non-Financial: She is an unpaid Medical Professional Council member for Feeding Matters (formerly P.O.P.S.I.C.L.E.); and Intellectual Property Owner, SOFFI MethodSM. This presentation will focus exclusively on the SOFFI Approach to feeding and will not include information on other similar or related therapy.

About this Course

This course provides immediately applicable practical information to help clinicians better identify and treat the factors that impact successful oral feeding of preterm and ill term infants. Utilizing a multidisciplinary approach— both in the NICU and after discharge to early intervention through the first six months—the course emphasizes strategies to facilitate infant abilities and develop caregiver feeding skills. Breastfeeding is emphasized as the best feeding method for infants, with some strategies to support breastfeeding. However, most of the feeding strategies are for bottle feedings, since more infant feeding problems occur with bottle feedings. The objective is to identify feeding readiness and provide intervention strategies from a framework of normal development. A holistic research-based approach integrating the medical fragility of these infants is emphasized, using the BROSS approach and the SOFFI MethodSM.

Objectives

- 1 Identify necessary components of infant development that indicate a readiness to begin and sustain oral feeding, including physiologic, motor and state organization
- 2 Discuss the development of oral-motor skills in preterm infants
- 3 Describe the interaction between medical and developmental levels as they relate to feeding readiness and the progression
- 4 Identify infants who are not following a normal progression
- 5 Use the BROSS approach to identify the development of oral feeding skills and use the SOFFI MethodSM to guide feeding decisions and intervention strategies
- 6 Use principles of normal development and developmentally supportive care to facilitate feeding progression, to include contributions of both the family and the professional team
- 7 Identify the impact of various medical conditions on oral feeding success

Audience

Designed for PTs, PTAs, OTs, OTAs. This workshop is designed for individuals with several years experience working with family and staff to support oral feeding for infants in, or just discharged from the intensive care nursery, including speech/language pathologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists and early interventionists. Level of instruction: Intermediate to Advanced.

Schedule – Day 1

7:30-8:00	Registration/Continental Breakfast
8:00-9:00	Introduction, Welcome & Family Roles and Expectations for Successful Nurturing and Feeding
9:00-10:00	Feeding as a Developmental Process–Physiologic, Sensory and State Development
10:00-10:15	Break
10:15-11:45	Feeding as a Developmental Process – Oral-Motor Development
11:45-12:45	Lunch (on your own)
12:45-1:30	Feeding as a Developmental Process-Across the first year
1:30-3:00	Medical Issues that Impact Feeding Skills: Chronic lung disease, cardiac defects, oral-Motor deficits, gastrointestinal disorders
3:00-3:15	Break
3:15-4:30	Effects of the NICU Experience: Changing the focus from volume to skill to build a foundation for optimal feeding and growth
4:30-5:15	Developmental Steps to Eating: The BROSS Approach
5:15-5:30	Introduction to the SOFFI Method SM

Schedule – Day 2

7:30-8:00	Continental Breakfast
8:00-10:15	Using the SOFFI Method SM to Guide Decisions Regarding Readiness and Interventions for Infants Not Nipple Feeding
10:15-10:30	Break
10:30-11:45	Using the SOFFI Method SM to Provide Supportive Interventions for Nipple Feeding (1)
11:45-12:45	Lunch (on your own)
12:45-2:30	Using the SOFFI Method SM to Provide Supportive Interventions for Nipple Feeding (2)
2:30-2:45	Break
2:45-4:00	Using the SOFFI Method SM to Provide Supportive Interventions for Nipple Feeding (3)

Testimonials

"This was one of the best courses I have ever attended. Erin's presentation was excellent and I appreciated the evidence-based focus with relevant clinical application. I would highly recommend this course to anyone interested in feeding."

– K. Richardson

ERI: Life-changing learning

You love what you do. Our courses remind you why. As a therapist, you change lives every day – and have your life changed in return. ERI is life-changing learning, for therapists by therapists.

The ERI Advantage:

- o Techniques you'll use the next day
- o Peers who share your passion
- o Renowned faculty
- o Evidence-based courses that improve outcomes
- o 30 years of life-changing learning

Specialty Tracks throughout the lifespan – Neonatal, Pediatric, Adult, Geriatric

Each ERI specialty track is designed to make the most of your continuing education time, budget, and goals. Start your search with us and plan every course you'll take in 2019.

Visit educationresourcesinc.com for all of your 2019 courses.

ERI Rewards

Your ERI experience is more rewarding than ever.

- o First Course Discount
- Bring a Friend Savings
- Group Discounts
- \$100 off your 4th Multi-day Course
- o And more

Subject to availability. Exclusions may apply. Visit our website for details and coupon codes.

Credits

This course meets the criteria for 14.5 contact hours (1.45 CEUs). Application has been made to the **NJ** and **LA** Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, and **MN** State Board of Physical Therapy. Approved by the **NC** Physical Therapy Association. The **WI** Physical Therapy Association and the **PA** State Board of Physical Therapy accept other state board's approvals.

Approved provider by the **NY** State Board of PT for 17.4 contact hours.



Approved provider of continuing education by the American Occupational Therapy Association #3043, for 14.5 contact hours - Intermediate Level Occupational Therapy Process: assessment, intervention. The assignment of AOTA CEUs does not imply endorsement of specific course content, products or clinical procedures by AOTA.



Education Resources, Inc is approved by the Continuing Education Board of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) to provide continuing education activities in speech-language pathology and audiology. See course information for number of ASHA CEUs, instructional level and content area. ASHA CE Provider approval does not imply endorsement of course content, specific products or clinical procedures.

This course is offered for up to 1.45 ASHA CEUs (Intermediate Level, Professional area)

This course meets the criteria for 14.5 hours towards NANT Certification

NBCOT professional development provider – 14.5 PDUs

Please contact us with any special needs requests:
info@educationresourcesinc.com or 508-359-6533

Locations and Dates 2019

April 26-27	Raleigh, NC	WakeMed Health and Hospitals
July 19-20	Englewood, NJ	Englewood Hospital and Medical Center
August 9-10	Minneapolis, MN	Abbot Northwestern Hospital
Sept 27-28	Baton Rouge, LA	Woman's Hospital



\$450 fee. Group rate (3 or more) must be mailed/faxed together \$425. 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.

Please make check payable and return to: Education Resources, Inc. 266 Main St., Suite 12 • Medfield, MA 02052
508-359-6533 or 800-487-6530 (outside MA) FAX 508-359-2959 • www.educationresourcesinc.com

Limited enrollment. We encourage you to register online!

The SOFFI MethodSM/Ross

April/NC July/NJ Aug/MN Sept/LA

Course Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Needed in the event of an emergency scheduling change

Email: _____

Please clearly print your email address for course confirmation

Employer: _____

Discipline: _____ Specialty: _____

How did you learn of this course _____

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.

I have read your refund policy above and understand.

Cardholder's name & billing address with zip code if different from above:

Signature _____

Amount charged _____

I hereby authorize you to charge my: VISA MC DISCOVER# _____

Exp. Date _____ CVV2 Code _____