

feeding matters

*making a better world for children
with pediatric feeding disorders*

*A pediatric feeding disorder
is a severe disruption to eating, drinking,
or digestion that may cause medical problems,
compromise growth, or impede development.*

EATING IS INSTINCTUAL ONLY IN THE FIRST FEW WEEKS OF LIFE. AFTER THAT, IT IS A LEARNED BEHAVIOR. EARLY INTERVENTION IS CRITICAL.

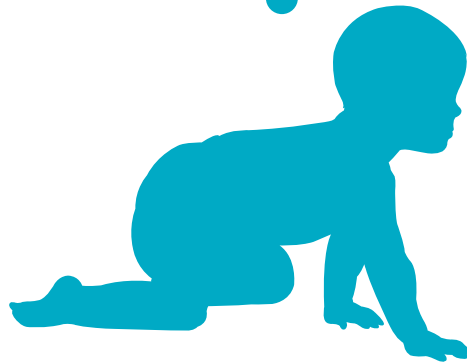
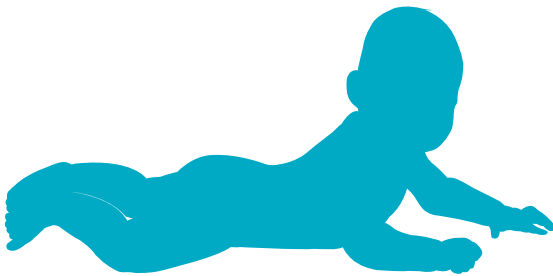
Eating is *more difficult* than walking or talking.

Eating is the only bodily task that requires the use of *every organ and all of the senses*.

The estimated cost of intensive treatment for feeding problems is approximately *\$48,000 over two years*.²

A single swallow requires the use of *26 muscles and 6 cranial nerves*.¹

Feeding problems account for *3% of hospital admissions*.³



¹Bass & Morrell, 1992

²Piazza & Carroll-Hernandez, 2004

³Barkmeier-Kraemer & Silverman, 2016

FEEDING IS
COMPLEX

FEEDING MATTERS PROMOTES COORDINATED CARE TO EXAMINE THE COMPLEXITIES OF A CHILD'S FEEDING DISORDER.



This model encourages a collaborative approach to care that focuses on the four key domains of pediatric feeding disorders: medical, nutrition, psychosocial, and feeding skill.

300+
DIAGNOSES PUT
CHILDREN AT RISK

Feeding Tube Awareness Foundation

THESE DIAGNOSES INCLUDE:

ACID REFLUX	EOSINOPHILIC
AUTISM	ESOPHAGITIS (EOE)
CEREBRAL PALSY	FAILURE TO THRIVE
CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE	FOOD ALLERGIES
CYSTIC FIBROSIS	MITOCHONDRIAL DISEASE
DOWN SYNDROME	PREMATURITY



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Feeding Matters is the only organization in the world devoted solely to accelerating identification, igniting research, promoting collaborative care, and encouraging awareness and understanding of pediatric feeding disorders.

feedingmatters.org

