

# Assessment and Treatment of Complex Feeding Disorders: Assessing and Treating the Whole Child

Mary Tarbell-Bickley, M. Ed, CCC-SLP



## Faculty

Mary (Polly) Tarbell-Bickley engages students with her dynamic presentation style and deep expertise gained over 32 years as a speech-language pathologist specializing in pediatric feeding disorders. She currently works at the University of Virginia's Children's Hospital in Charlottesville, Virginia. She is the director of the nationally-known Encouragement Feeding Program, through which she has directly seen over 800 children with complex feeding disorders. She has published a peer reviewed article in *Infants and Young Children* regarding weaning children from gastrostomy tubes and has co-published a chapter in *Communication Sciences and Disorders: An Introduction*, 2006. She lectured at the University of Virginia Curry School of Education regarding pediatric feeding disorders for many years.

**Disclosure:** Financial: Polly Tarbell-Bickley receives a speaking fee from Education Resources. Non-Financial: She has no nonfinancial relationships to disclose.

## About this Live Webinar

Clinicians will be taught the necessary components of a comprehensive evaluation of feeding problems including those encountered by children with oral motor dysfunction, ankyloglossia, oral motor inexperience, oral hypersensitivity, behavioral rigidity and anxiety as seen in children with cardiac issues, prematurity, ASD, syndromes and SPD. Focus will be on a holistic treatment approach for challenging feeding disorders that are characteristically seen with tube dependency, oral inexperience, severe oral hypersensitivity, rigid eating patterns, and difficulty transitioning to table foods. Participants will leave with a comprehensive therapy tool-box including suggestions for reducing mealtime stress, improving oral competence and thus confidence and ensuring family carryover. Video case analysis will enhance problem-solving in hospital.

## Learning Objectives

- Identify children who are appropriate for oral functional therapy
- Choose the components of a holistic evaluation for complex feeding problems to reduce mealtime stress, improve oral competence and increase confidence ensuring family carryover
- Apply at least 3 treatment goals to address barriers to normal eating patterns
- Determine the appropriate intensity of therapy to address a feeding impairment
- Select an evidence-based treatment to address a feeding impairment related to oral motor dysfunction, ankyloglossia, oral motor inexperience, oral hypersensitivity, behavioral rigidity and/or anxiety

## Audience

This course is designed for those who care for children (infant through school age) with complex feeding disorders; Dietitians, OTs, OTAs, PTs, PTAs, SLPs, Psychologists and Special Educators.

Help your patients achieve better outcomes.

## Schedule – Day 1 5:40 pm - 9:30 pm EST (US)

5:40-6:00	Webinar Registration/Zoom Course Opens
6:00-8:00	Holistic evaluation from NICU to home: Assessment of the elements that impact feeding - cardiac, respiratory, gastro-intestinal, growth, medications and oral structures including ankyloglossia
8:00- 9:30	Holistic evaluation: Impact of sensory, motor and developmental issues on feeding

## Schedule – Day 2 5:40 pm - 9:30 pm EST

5:40-6:00	Webinar Registration/Zoom Course Opens
6:00-8:30	Holistic evaluation: Impact of anxiety, environment and parent-child interactions on feeding and eating
8:30-9:00	Analyzing and determining the barriers to functional feeding
9:00-9:30	Case Studies - Clinical Problem-Solving: Autism, Chromosomal disorders, Prematurity, Structural deficits.

## Schedule – Day 3 5:40 pm - 9:30 pm EST (US)

5:40-6:00	Webinar Registration/Zoom Course Opens
6:00-8:00	Foundations for feeding the toddler/young child, physiological readiness for optimal outcomes
8:00-9:30	The importance of play, sensory integration and behavior management: Techniques that work

## Schedule – Day 4 5:40 pm - 9:00 pm EST (US)

5:40-6:00	Webinar Registration/Zoom Course Opens
6:00-7:45	Treatment techniques that take the whole child into consideration
	Case Studies - Clinical Problem-Solving: Including children with selective eating issues, oral motor impairments, oral hypersensitivity and oral inexperience
7:45-9:00	Treatment elements and techniques Outcome measurement

*“Polly is a seasoned practitioner who specializes in pediatric feeding therapy. She gets real about the ups and downs of feeding therapy with real-life case studies and shares how her professional practice has evolved throughout the years supported by evidence-based research. Taking this CE course was definitely a treat!”*

-Andrea A., OTR

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## Credits

This course meets the criteria for 13.5 contact hours (1.35 CEUs), Intermediate Level.



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This course can be used toward your NBCOT renewal requirements for 13.5 units.

Approved provider of the FL Board of Occupational Therapy-CE Broker for 16 CE hours.

Approved by the TX Board of OT Examiners.



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Approved provider by the NY State Board of Physical Therapy for 16.2 contact hours (1.62 CEUs).

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Dietitians will receive 13.5 hours or 1.35 CEUs

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

## Webinar Dates and Times

April 17, 24, May 1 and 8, 2024

5:40 pm EST • 4:40 pm CST • 3:40 pm MST • 2:40 pm PST (US)

Registration is for all four 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.



**\$389 fee. LIMITED ENROLLMENT.** Cancellation will be accepted until 14 days prior to the start date of the course, minus a \$75 Administration Fee. There will be NO REFUNDS after this 14-day deadline. We encourage you to register online!

**WEBINAR: Assessment and Treatment of Complex Feeding Disorders**  
**Mary Tarbell-Bickley**

☐ **April 17, 24, May 1 and 8, 2024**

**Course Registration Form**

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