



PEDIATRIC FEEDING DISORDER CONFERENCE

VIRTUAL EVENT: APRIL 24 – 26, 2024

ON-DEMAND: APRIL 29 – MAY 28, 2024



SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

THIS IS AN INTERACTIVE DIGITAL PROGRAM
CLICKING ON THE TEXT WILL OPEN SESSION SPECIFIC INFORMATION

all times Eastern Daylight Time

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2024

11:20AM – 12:00PM ET: SHANNON GOLDWATER SUMMIT FOR CHANGE

The Power of Two: The effects and outcomes of peer-to-peer mentorship on maternal mental health while navigating pediatric feeding disorder. 7
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Cuyler Romeo, MOT, OTR/L, SCFES, IBCLC Deanna Montalbano, Content Expert- Billing and Finance
Jenny McGlothlin, MS, CCC/SLP, CLC
Ruth Bourque, MS, OTR/L Grant Morris, MD, MPH, FAAP, FAC member, Parent of Child with PFD
Dana Kizer, MS, OTR/L, BCP, Family Advocate

3:00PM – 3:15PM ET: BREAK**

3:15PM – 5:00PM ET: SHANNON GOLDWATER SUMMIT FOR CHANGE PART 2

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2024

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10:30AM – 11:30AM ET: 20 MINUTE TALKS – PFD IN INFANCY

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10:30AM – 11:30AM ET: 20 MINUTE TALKS – EVALUATING PFD

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Lucy Bates, Bsc (Hons) (OT)
Hannah Daw, MSc (RD)

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12:30PM – 1:30PM ET: 60 MINUTE CONCURRENT SESSIONS

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1:30PM – 1:45PM ET: BREAK**

1:45PM – 2:45PM ET: 60 MINUTE CONCURRENT SESSIONS

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2:45PM – 3:00PM ET: BREAK**

3:00PM – 4:00PM ET: 60 MINUTE TALK

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Madison Farmer, OTD/S

*INDICATES NO EARNED CREDIT HOURS

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

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all times Eastern Daylight Time

FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2024

8:00AM – 9:00AM ET: EXHIBITOR HALL OPEN

9:00AM – 10:15AM ET: SYMPOSIUM SESSION

The 2024 Feeding Matters Annual PFD Alliance Symposium: Exploring an education pathway for pediatric feeding disorder30
Cuyler Romeo, MOT, OTR/L, SCFES, IBCLC
Amy Delaney, PhD
Paula Rabaey, PhD
Erin Ross, PhD
Amber Mieras, FAC Chair, Parent of Child with PFD

10:15AM – 10:30AM ET: BREAK**

10:30AM – 11:30AM ET: 20 MINUTE TALKS – PERSPECTIVES IN PFD

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Lindsay Beckerman, MOT, OTR/L

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10:30AM – 11:30AM ET: 20 MINUTE TALKS – DELIVERING PFD SERVICES

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Emily Bragg, MS, CCC-SLP
Jessica Owens, CPNP-PC
Sharon Wallace, RD, CSP, LDN

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11:30AM – 12:30PM ET: LUNCH**

12:30PM – 1:30PM ET: 60 MINUTE CONCURRENT SESSIONS

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Liz Evenson, MS, RD, LD, CLC

1:30PM – 1:45PM ET: BREAK**

1:45PM – 2:45PM ET: 60 MINUTE CONCURRENT SESSIONS

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2:45PM – 3:00PM ET: BREAK**

3:00PM – 4:00PM ET: 5 MINUTE LIGHTNING TALKS

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Suzanne Thoyre, PhD, RN, FAAN

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Isabella Herold, MPH, RDN, CDN, CLC
Madeleine Amdur, LCSW, MPH
Anya Holit-Gsell, LMSW
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Ida Barresi, MA, CCC-SLP

Feeding a Short Gut: A clinician/parent perspective 48
Meagan Short, CCC-SLP

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Lauren Hamilton, MD Student, Class of 2026

*INDICATES NO EARNED CREDIT HOURS

Shannon Goldwater SUMMIT FOR CHANGE

WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at 11:20am – 12:00pm ET

Shannon Goldwater Summit for Change: The Power of Two: The effects and outcomes of peer-to-peer mentorship on maternal mental health while navigating pediatric feeding disorder

SPEAKERS

Jena Twete, MS, CSCS
Cassidy Martinez, RN, BSN

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. List two obstacles parents face when guiding their child through their pediatric feeding disorder journey
2. Describe two benefits of a peer-to-peer mentorship program and its effects on maternal mental health
3. Generalize outcomes of a peer-to-peer mentorship program in relation to pediatric feeding disorder and its effects on the family

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

This session, led by two mothers of children with pediatric feeding disorder, will showcase the case studies of two incredible children navigating the challenges of pediatric feeding disorder. Hear first hand accounts of medically complex children, insider perspectives of mothers who also have careers in health, and the effects of peer-to-peer mentoring on creating a shared narrative during a critically isolating experience.



Jena Twete, MS, CSCS: Jena is the mother of a 4 year old daughter with Pediatric Feeding Disorder (PFD). Her daughter was diagnosed back in March 2020 with failure to thrive and aspiration. Throughout 2020, she was also diagnosed with Eosinophilic Esophagitis, Eosinophilic Gastritis and a micro-deletion on chromosome 7q11.22. She has a G-Tube as her primary means of nutrition and she is on an 8 allergen elimination diet due to having two eosinophilic diseases. Along with being a mother to her daughter, Jena is the Director of Inclusive Health at Special Olympics Colorado (SOCO). In her position she works closely with the Intellectual and Developmental Disability (IDD) community providing free health screenings, fitness education and wellness programming to over 20,000 athletes with IDD in Colorado. Her background is in Fitness, Health and Wellness with a bachelors in Exercise Science with an Emphasis in Health Promotion and a Masters in Sports Nutrition, helped to prepare her for the work she does and without her knowing to be the mother to her daughter. The knowledge she gained from her education comes in hand with all the medical appointments her and her husband attend for their daughter. With the work Jena does for SOCO, her knowledge, and her passion for helping others, led her to be a mentor in the Power of Two program for Feeding Matters, only 6 months after her journey with PDF began with her daughter. In Jena's spare time she enjoys working out and spending time with her husband, 4 year old daughter and friends.



Cassidy Martinez, RN, BSN: Cassidy is the mother of a 3 year old son with Pediatric Feeding Disorder (PFD). Her son was diagnosed at one month of age in September 2020. At this time, he had a G-tube placed after discovering that he had silent aspiration and the inability to swallow effectively. From September 2020 to January 2022, his G-tube was his primary source of nutrition. During this time, Cassidy worked as a private duty nurse for her son in the comfort of their home. He was able to get his G-tube removed in January 2022 after multiple swallow studies, extensive therapies, and success with increasing his oral tone and coordination. He continues to work with speech therapy and occupational therapy to improve his chewing ability and work on his oral aversions. Along with being a mother to her son, Cassidy is a Nursing Supervisor at Aveanna Healthcare. In her position, she works with medically fragile children and their families, providing support, empowerment, and nursing assistance. She originally worked as a labor and delivery nurse, but her experience with her son provided her with empathy and desire to help support medically complex families. She now works alongside 20+ families who are navigating PFD. Cassidy inquired about the Power of Two Mentorship Program in 2021 after feeling isolated in her PFD journey. Cassidy was matched with Jena, and has been friends with Jena ever since. In Cassidy's spare time, she enjoys reading, running, and spending time with her family.

PRESENTING LEVEL SPONSOR:



ADVOCATE LEVEL SPONSORS:



Shannon Goldwater SUMMIT FOR CHANGE



Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at 12:00pm – 3:00pm
and 3:15pm – 5:00pm ET

Shannon Goldwater Summit for Change: The right care for the right child at the right time

SPEAKERS

Toneisha Bush, MA, CCC-SLP
Cuyler Romeo, MOT, OTR/L, SCFES, IBCLC
Jenny McGlothlin, MS, CCC/SLP, CLC
Ruth Bourque, MS, OTR/L
Dana Kizer, MS, OTR/L, BCP, Family Advocate
Amber Mieras, FAC Chair, Parent of Child with PFD
Deanna Montalbano, Content Expert- Billing and Finance
Grant Morris, MD, MPH, FAAP, FAC member, Parent of Child with PFD

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. List 2 obstacles PFD families face when seeking care
2. Define episodic care in treatment of children with PFD
3. Describe at least 3 available PFD resources that can be shared with a care team
4. Describe at least 2 methods for advocating for care when faced with insurance barriers
5. List the steps need to appeal an insurance denial for initial or ongoing service

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

Feeding Matters' Shannon Goldwater Summit for Change, "**Authentic Representation: The REAL Picture of Pediatric Feeding Disorder (PFD)**", understands that for optimal outcomes to be achieved it must be a team effort, which includes families. This event will allow families, professionals, and community partners to engage in dialogue to address pressing issues related to episodic care such as duration of care, breaks in service, treatment approaches, and insurance coverage through the use of case studies, panel discussions, and resource dissemination. This event will focus on meeting families exactly where they are while providing tangible, immediate, next steps to move forward and progress in their PFD journey.

Toneisha Bush, MA, CCC-SLP: Toneisha is a Speech-Language Pathologist and Private-Practice owner from South Carolina. She has worked in a wide variety of pediatric settings to include NICU, outpatient pediatrics, clinic settings, and schools. Over the years, she has developed a love for all things PFD. "My desire is that ALL families and children with pediatric feeding/swallowing disorders receive the best quality care/attention they so desperately need and deserve from loving professionals who truly care about their overall health and well-being."

Cuyler Romeo, MOT, OTR/L, SCFES, IBCLC: Cuyler has developed a broad clinical understanding of the needs of families and children by serving as an Occupational Therapist and industry expert in pediatric feeding disorder for over 20 years. As the Director of Strategic Initiatives at Feeding Matters, she assists in developing and executing a strategic plan to bring about system wide change for families struggling with pediatric feeding disorder. She utilizes her clinical understanding and leadership expertise to collaborate with constituents in identifying, tracking, and assessing innovative solutions to system problems.



Jenny McGlothlin, MS, CCC/SLP, CLC: Jenny has been a licensed Speech-Language Pathologist for 22 years and is also a Certified Lactation Counselor. At the UT Dallas Callier Center, she specializes in diagnostics and treatment of children with feeding challenges from birth through adolescence. She is the co-author of two books, *Helping Your Child with Extreme Picky Eating* and *Conquer Picky Eating for Teens and Adults*, which can be found at www.extremepickyeating.com



Ruth Bourque, MS, OTR/L: Ruth has a clinical background as an occupational therapist in pediatrics with a specialty area of feeding, eating, and swallowing. She received her bachelors degree in Psychology at Spring Hill College and a Master's in Occupational Therapy from the University of South Alabama both in the Mobile, AL. She currently works at the Children's Hospital in Savannah, GA on both the feeding team and the occupational therapy team. She has experience in hospital, outpatient clinic, and home based settings. She has enjoyed volunteering with Feeding Matters since 2019.



Dana Kizer, MS, OTR/L, BCP, Family Advocate: Dana is a Pediatric Occupational Therapist who specializes in feeding and sensory processing. She grew up accompanying her younger brother Sean to feeding therapy. Her personal experience with PFD over many years inspired her to pursue occupational therapy to help other families navigate the complex world of feeding disorders.



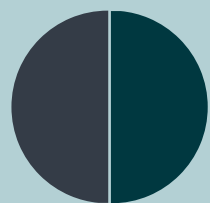
Amber Mieras, FAC Chair, Parent of Child with PFD: Amber is the mother of Jax, 8, and Nayeli, 4. Amber connected with Feeding Matters when Jax was an infant and she was looking for information about feeding challenges. She found a wealth of support and knowledge about feeding tubes, therapies, and connections with other families that impacted her entire family. Over the last 7 years, Amber has continued to utilize the Feeding Matters resources and support, serving as the chair on the Family Advisory Council, as a mentor with the Power of Two program, as well as presenting at the 2021 PFD Conference. Amber was an elementary school teacher, mentor, and professional development facilitator for over 16 years serving the Phoenix area as well as a small community outside of Boston. In her spare time, she loves running and hiking, cheering on her alma-mater Arizona State University Sun Devils, and her beloved Red Sox. She loves spending time with her family, watching movies, and being outdoors.



Deanna Montalbano, Content Expert: Deanna was raised in the small town of Erin in South Central New York State. The town is very close to Cornell University where she earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Hotel Administration. She spent many years working various management positions throughout the Hotel Industry in Nashville, Chicago, San Diego, and Phoenix. Deanna's career path changed a when she became a Mom and needed a more flexible work schedule to provide a work/life balance. She entered the Medical Billing field where her love for numbers and detail-focus comes in handy. Deanna competes in Olympic-Style Weightlifting both on the National and International stage and when not lifting, spends time with her husband, two teenage boys, and pups Wrigley and Diego.



Grant Morris, MD, MPH, FAAP, FAC member, Parent of Child with PFD: Grant is a native of West Virginia and currently resides and works in Pennsylvania. He and his wife enjoy raising four amazing girls, one of which has pediatric feeding disorder. He first encountered Feeding Matters at the International PFD Conference in 2023 and has since joined the Family Advisory Council. Although his daughter no longer has a G-tube he continues to learn and evolve as a husband and father of a child with PFD. The last sever years of his PFD journey have been filled with moments of challenge and put many things into perspective. In his free time, Grant likes to be outdoors, coach youth soccer, and is an avid fan of West Virginia University Athletics.



THURSDAY

KEYNOTE SESSION

April 25, 2024 at 9:00am – 10:15am ET

KEYNOTE SESSION

Billions of Neurons in Your Pocket: Harnessing the power of neuroscience to improve PFD treatment

SPEAKER

Georgia A. Malandraki, PhD, CCC-SLP, BCS-S, F-ASHA

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

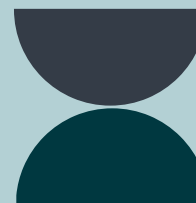
1. Summarize the levels of swallowing neural control and how they change in development and across the life span
2. Describe applications of neuroscientific principles and findings into pediatric feeding and swallowing clinical care
3. Describe the role of new technologies in improving understanding of pediatric swallowing neurophysiology and treatment of pediatric feeding disorder

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

Feeding skills are more than meets the eye. Delve into the intricate world of neurophysiology as it relates to swallowing across the lifespan, a crucial aspect in navigating the complexity of pediatric feeding disorder (PFD). Join us in this keynote to broaden your insights into swallow neurophysiology, discover effective methods for improving outcomes in children with PFD, and explore cutting-edge technologies shaping the future of PFD management. The question lingers: Can neuroscience be the key to advancing PFD treatment? Can neuroscience help us improve PFD treatment?



Georgia A. Malandraki, PhD, CCC-SLP, BCS-S, F-ASHA: Georgia is a Professor of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences, and Biomedical Engineering (courtesy) and the Director of the I-EaT Swallowing Research Laboratory at Purdue University. She is a neuroscientist and certified speech language pathologist with Board Certification in Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders. Her research focuses on investigating developmental and treatment swallowing neuroplasticity and developing neurorehabilitative and telehealth interventions for adult and pediatric patients with dysphagia. Dr. Malandraki is the developer of the Intensive Dysphagia Rehabilitation Approach (IDRA) and has been involved in the commercialization of novel wearable technologies that aid in the tele-treatment of dysphagia. Clinically, she serves patients with neurogenic dysphagia across the age span and consults clinicians and regulatory bodies on the use of safe and reliable telehealth services. Her work has been funded by several Institutes of the National Institutes of Health (NIDCD, NIA, NINDS, NIBIB), the American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine, private foundations, and through the Purdue Research Foundation. Among others, she has been awarded the prestigious National Institutes of Health NIBIB Trailblazer Award (2019), she has been inducted as a Fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (2021) and was awarded Honors of the Association from the Indiana Speech-Language-Hearing Association in 2022. Finally, she served as the 2022-2023 President of the International Dysphagia Research Society, and as the co-chair of the 3rd World Dysphagia Summit (2023).



THURSDAY

20 MINUTE TALKS

April 25, 2024 at 10:30am – 11:30am ET

PFD IN INFANCY

Effects of Infant-Driven Feeding in the NICU for Premature Infants with Comorbidities

SPEAKER

Courtney Green, MS, CF-SLP

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

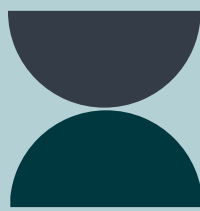
1. Demonstrate a functional knowledge of the effects of prematurity and comorbidities on swallowing
2. Explain feeding factors that impact swallowing in premature infants
3. Describe the rationale for a proposed new premature infant gestational age classification schema

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

Historically, premature infant oral feeding attainment was considered a function of gestational age(GA)/neurodevelopmental maturity only. However, some researchers suggest comorbidities have greater impact; others report feeding method has the greatest impact. This study investigated relationships between GA, morbidities, and feeding method on time to full oral feeding in preterm infants.



Courtney Green, MS, CF-SLP: Courtney is a speech-language pathologist clinical fellow, who graduated from Elmhurst University in 2021 with her bachelor's degree and Rush University in 2023 with her master's degree. While in graduate school, she completed a thesis that investigated feeding protocol on time to oral feeding milestones in premature infants with concomitant morbidities. Courtney has interests in pediatric dysphagia and is currently completing her clinical fellowship in outpatient pediatrics working with children 19 months to 19 years.



THURSDAY

20 MINUTE TALKS

April 25, 2024 at 10:30am – 11:30am ET

PFD IN INFANCY

Physiological Measures of Breastfeeding: A comparison between term vs pre-term infants

SPEAKERS

Buddhika Prasangi, BSc Honours
Isuru Dharmarathna, PhD

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Describe neuro-physiological manifestations associated with prematurity resulting in feeding disorders
2. Summarize a non-invasive clinical approach to obtain physiological measures of breastfeeding in infants
3. Compare and contrast the biomechanics of breastfeeding in term and preterm infants

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

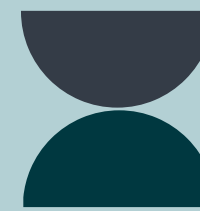
The presentation discusses the biomechanics of breastfeeding as a complex and critical neurophysiological function for newborn babies. The session describes physiological measures of breastfeeding that can be obtained from infants non-invasively. The presentation reports findings from a comparison of objective physiological measures of breastfeeding between term and preterm infants.



Buddhika Prasangi, BSc Honours: Buddhika Prasangi completed her Bachelor of Science Honours in Speech and Hearing Science at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka. Currently she is working as a speech and language pathologist at the Miracle L Speech center, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka. She has special research and clinical interest towards pediatric dysphagia, specific learning disorders and voice disorders.



Isuru Dharmarathna, PhD: Isuru Dharmarathna is a speech and language pathologist and currently works at the Swallowing Rehabilitation Research Lab at the KITE as a post-doctoral research fellow. Isuru completed her PhD at The University of Auckland, New Zealand on paediatric dysphagia in 2020 and has contributed to literature on instrumental swallowing assessments by publishing in peer-reviewed journals. She was a recipient of a Commonwealth scholarship to complete her MSc in Clinical Education, University of Edinburgh, UK and is a fellow of the Higher Education Academy, UK. Isuru's research interests are on improving the quality of instrumental swallowing assessments for children and adults.



THURSDAY

20 MINUTE TALKS

April 25, 2024 at 10:30am – 11:30am ET

PFD IN INFANCY

Feeding Challenges for Infants of Diabetic Mothers, A Research Review

SPEAKERS

Leslie-Anne Dietrich, MD, IBCLC
Melanie Van Hoy, MS, CCC-SLP, CLC, CNT, NTMTC

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Describe the impact maternal diabetes can have on infant physiology
2. Examine common factors affecting the infant of a diabetic mother's ability to orally feed
3. Identify and assess therapeutic treatment strategies to improve oral feeding of infants of diabetic mothers

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

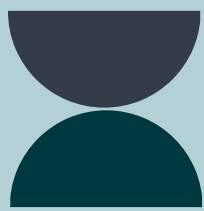
During the presentation, results of the literature review researching oral feeding difficulties in infants of diabetic mothers (IDMs) will be shared. Participants will be provided an overview of oral feeding complications that may arise in IDMs. Feeding treatment methods currently utilized will be discussed by a neonatologist and speech pathologist.



Leslie-Anne Dietrich, MD, IBCLC: Leslie-Anne is attending physician, Division of Neonatology in the Department of Pediatrics at University of Texas Health San Antonio. She is originally from San Antonio. She completed her medical training at UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas and pediatric residency at Phoenix Children's Hospital/Maricopa Medical Center. She subsequently worked as a neonatal hospitalist at Phoenix Children's Hospital. She then returned to San Antonio to complete neonatal-perinatal medicine fellowship and thereafter, joined as faculty. She is now the Assistant Program Director of the neurodevelopmental follow-up clinic-- PREMIERE program-- and the Director of the Infant Feeding Support Program in the NICU. Her research interests include implementation of early cerebral palsy detection and interventions in the NICU and follow-up program, lactation support for high-risk mother-infant dyads, and characterization of feeding patterns in infants with complex medical conditions including infants of diabetic mother and infants with aerodigestive conditions. She is an advocate for allied health professionals and nursing in the NICU. She has begun implementing a home nasogastric feeding tube program at her institution and hopes to increase the outpatient feeding and lactation support in the San Antonio community. Dr. Dietrich is a board certified lactation consultant, member of the Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine, and co-chair of the ABM's NICU Special Interest Group. She works to improve guidance on how to best support breastfeeding and breastmilk expression in the NICU.



Melanie Van Noy, MS, CCC-SLP, CLC, CNT, NTMTC: Melanie has worked as a pediatric Speech-Language Pathologist since 2011 and is currently serving full time as the Feeding Program Director at Therapy 2000, a pediatric home health company throughout the state of Texas. She also provides instrumental assessments such as FEES and MBSS as needed in the NICU, diagnosing and treating feeding and swallowing disorders, and providing education for families and staff. She is a Certified Lactation Counselor, a Certified Neonatal Therapist, and is certified to perform Neuromuscular Electrical Stim therapy. Melanie has served in many settings over the years including home health, outpatient, and acute services in a level 4 NICU.



THURSDAY

20 MINUTE TALKS

April 25, 2024 at 10:30am – 11:30am ET

EVALUATING PFD

Discriminant Validity of the Environment, Attitudes, Temperament, Sensory (EATS) Feeding Assessment

SPEAKERS

Blair Carsone, PhD, MOT, OTR/L
Bryce Smith, OTD, OTR/L

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Describe sensory-based feeding
2. Summarize two components of sensory-based feeding difficulties
3. List two examples of differentiation between seeking and avoiding sensory-based feeding difficulties

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

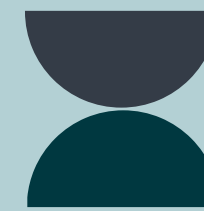
The Environment, Attitudes, Temperament, and Sensory (EATS) Feeding Assessment was created to evaluate pediatric sensory-based feeding difficulties in an outpatient setting. Caregivers of children with and without feeding difficulties were surveyed and compared statistically. This research determined the discriminant validity of the EATS Feeding Assessment ($p < .01$) to be adequate.



Blair Carsone, PhD, MOT, OTR/L: Blair is a licensed occupational therapist with over 9 years of experience in pediatrics and adults. She specializes in sensory processing, sensory-based feeding, and mindfulness. Her clinical practice includes work in outpatient, school-based, hospital, and skilled nursing settings. Currently an assistant professor at Gannon University's Department of Occupational Therapy, Dr. Carsone provides instruction in the entry-level doctorate program. She provides consulting services specific to documentation, problem solution, program development, therapist training, and innovative practice development. Her research focus includes feeding, autism, sensory processing, and Beery VMI. Dr. Carsone is the co-founder of Carsone KIDS, a nonprofit organization that provides free parent education resources.



Bryce Smith, OTD, OTR/L: Bryce is a licensed occupational therapist with 5 years of experience in adults. She specializes in lymphedema and oncology. Her research focus includes feeding, lymphedema, and oncology. Dr. Smith is the co-founder of Carsone KIDS, a nonprofit organization that provides free parent education resources.



THURSDAY

20 MINUTE TALKS

April 25, 2024 at 10:30am – 11:30am ET

EVALUATING PFD

Psychometric Properties of SMART Feeding Tool: An interprofessional research study

SPEAKERS

Anne Albi, MS, CCC-SLP, IBCLC
Ravi Mishra, MD, FAAP
Cynthia Lira-Crame, MSN, RNC-NIC, NPD-BC

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Describe the impact of feeding difficulties on the neonatal patient population
2. Summarize the benefits of infant feeding assessment tools
3. Identify one outcome of the study testing the psychometrics of the SMART Tool

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

Feeding difficulties are a frequent complication of prematurity. Infant feeding assessment tools with well-established validity and reliability are lacking in the literature. This led to an inter-professional partnership among NICU providers to develop and test the psychometric properties of a novel infant feeding assessment tool: the SMART Tool.



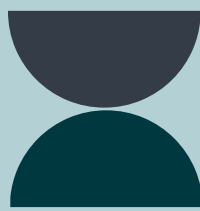
Anne Albi, MS, CCC-SLP, IBCLC: Anne graduated with a master's degree in Speech Pathology from Rush University in 2008. While practicing in a variety of settings since that time, Anne found her passion in the neonatal intensive care unit. With over a decade of experience as a speech-language pathologist in a Level III NICU, Anne has worked with hundreds of premature and medically fragile neonates with dysphagia and feeding difficulties. Anne decided to advance her skill set by becoming an Internationally Board Certified Lactation Consultant and provides breastfeeding support to dyads in both the NICU and in her private practice. Anne is the author of a standardized infant feeding assessment tool, the SMART tool, which is being implemented across the Midwest region of Advocate Health. She participates in research to improve feeding outcomes alongside her colleagues Ravi Mishra, MBBS, MD, FAAP and Cynthia Lira-Crame, MSN, RNC-NIC, NPD-BC, with their work being disseminated locally and nationally.



Ravi Mishra, MD, FAAP: Mishra completed his Neonatology Fellowship from Maria Fareri Children's Hospital, Valhalla, NY in 2002. Currently, he is a practicing neonatologist at Advocate Health. Dr. Mishra's main areas of interest include neonatal nutrition and neonatal ventilation. Dr. Mishra has created a TPN calculator as part of his work in early nutrition transitions from parenteral to enteral nutrition. For late neonatal nutrition transition, he has created the SMART Tool to assess real feeding skills in neonates. Along with his research team, he has conducted a multicenter trial prospective trial to establish the tool's reliability and validity.



Cynthia Lira-Crame, MSN, RNC-NIC, NPD-BC: Cynthia is a certified neonatal nurse with over 25 years of clinical and leadership experience in a Level III NICU at an urban Level I trauma center. She has been focused on advancing nursing practice and improving patient outcomes through the implementation of innovative solutions, earning her the Advocate Aurora Health System Innovation award in 2020. Most recently this has included serving as a primary investigator and co-investigator on 3 completed research studies at Advocate Health and has disseminated her work both locally and nationally. Cynthia's interest in infant feeding began with her master's thesis in 2014, this initiated the essential collaboration between nursing and speech therapy in the NICU. This is a true full circle moment for Cynthia as a co-investigator on this interprofessional research study where she provides the nursing perspective alongside the creators of the SMART Tool, her colleagues Dr. Ravi Mishra, and Anne Albi MS CCC-SLP, IBCLC.



THURSDAY

20 MINUTE TALKS

April 25, 2024 at 10:30am – 11:30am ET

EVALUATING PFD

Comorbidities in Paediatric Feeding Disorders

SPEAKERS

Natalie Morris, MSc, BA (Hons) (SLP)
Lucy Bates, Bsc (Hons) (OT)
Hannah Daw, MSc (RD)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Identify two common comorbidities associated with Paediatric Feeding Disorders and their prevalence
2. Summarize how comorbid conditions contribute to feeding difficulties
3. Describe two ways to Implement changes in treatment for PFD to incorporate challenges related to comorbidities

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

Drawing on new data from a retrospective observational study, a multi-disciplinary team examined the prevalence of comorbidities in PFD. We share findings on the prevalence of allergies, gastrointestinal disorders, neurodevelopmental conditions, nutritional deficiencies, medical conditions, mental health conditions and sensory processing disorders in PFD, discussing the impact for clinical practice.



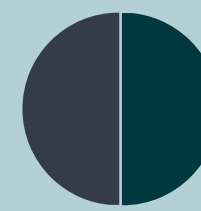
Natalie Morris, MSc, BA (Hons): Natalie is Founder and CEO of The Feeding Trust, the UK Charity for Paediatric Feeding Disorders (PFD). The Feeding Trust provide the only dedicated inter-disciplinary feeding therapy service for children and young people with paediatric feeding disorders (PFD) in the UK. The charity also provides training and education, conducts research, raises awareness and advocates for those affected by PFD in the UK. Natalie is a Speech and Language Therapist by training and is also Founder and CEO of Integrated Therapy Solutions, an established multi-disciplinary children’s therapy service in the UK. Her clinical specialism is paediatric dysphagia (children’s feeding and swallowing disorders). Natalie has been awarded the prestigious Shackleton Leader’s Award for her social entrepreneurial work to increase access to specialist feeding therapy services for vulnerable children and families. She is also an accredited expert witness and qualified to assess and report to The Royal Courts of Justice.



Lucy Bates, Bsc (Hons): Lucy is Clinical Director and treating Occupational Therapist within The Feeding Trust, the UK Charity for Paediatric Feeding Disorders (PFD). The Feeding Trust provide the only dedicated inter-disciplinary feeding therapy service for children and young people with paediatric feeding disorders (PFD) in the UK. The charity also provides training and education, conducts research, raises awareness and advocates for those affected by PFD in the UK. Lucy is an Occupational Therapist by training and is also Founder and clinical director of Lucy Bates Children’s OT Ltd an independent children’s Occupational Therapy practise in the UK. Her clinical specialism is feeding difficulties in children, sensory processing challenges and the impact this has on occupation.



Hannah Daw, MSc: Hannah is a Registered Associate Nutritionist at The Feeding Trust with lived experience of a child with a Paediatric Feeding Disorder (PFD). Her son was completely tube fed due to a kidney condition for 3 years during which time she found very little understanding of her son’s feeding difficulties within the health service. Around this time, she discovered The Feeding Trust who were able to assist him on his feeding journey and with their help he was weaned from his tube. This experience prompted her to retrain so she could work in this field with the hope of supporting other parents on their child’s feeding journey. She studied an MSc in Eating Disorders and Clinical Nutrition at University College London (UCL) graduating in 2022. She is now an Association for Nutrition (AfN) Registered Associate Nutritionist.



THURSDAY

60 MINUTE TALKS

April 25, 2024, 11:30am – 12:30pm ET

SPONSORED FIRESIDE CHAT**

Malnutrition Does Not Discriminate: Addressing the little things that matter

SPEAKER

Raquel Durban, MS, RD, LD/N

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Define “restricted diet” and variations of clinical presentation
2. Summarize the most common micronutrient deficiencies in restricted diets
3. Demonstrate competency on culturally and disease-based micronutrient food replacement

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

Learners will immerse themselves in real case studies of patients with restricted diets for various reasons. Discovery of similarities between patients despite unique diets will identify gaps in nutrients that are now more common with our evolving food system, growing food deserts and financial burden of a nutritionally complete diet. With compassion at the forefront of care for patients, tips and tricks will aid in developing a culturally relevant and obtainable diet with nutrient gaps fulfilled.



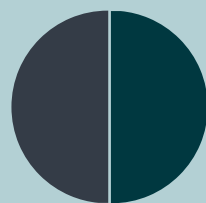
Raquel Durban MS, RD, LD/N: Raquel is a registered dietitian specializing in the dietary management of families with food allergies. She received her MS degree in nutrition from the University of Maryland and completed a nutrition internship at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Raquel is a steering committee member of the International Network of Dietitians and Nutritionists in Allergy and serves on the numerous medical advisory boards of non-profit allergy focused organizations. She also values her role in academia by contributing to continuing medical education programs and peer reviewed publications. Raquel also participates in the American College and American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (ACAAI and AAAAI) where she serves on the organizations’ numerous committees, collaborating with other health care professionals and patient advocacy groups to improve the quality of life and advance understanding for families living with food allergies.

Every opportunity to counsel and educate is viewed with honor and empathy. Raquel will develop practical plans and education to meet the patients and clinicals where they are in their journey. There is there is not a one size fits all answer for success and success is not linear! She will work to find the best balance of meeting nutritional needs with lifestyle demands and ensure collaboration with other members of the care team.

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THURSDAY

60 MINUTE TALKS

April 25, 2024, 12:30pm – 1:30pm ET

Removing Barriers: Social determinants of health and NICU parent feeding practices

SPEAKERS

Stefanie LaManna, MS, CCC-SLP, CNT
Brooke Hatfield, MS, CCC-SLP

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. List two ways social determinants of health influence outcomes related to parent feeding in the NICU
2. Identify, consider, and address social determinant of health-related barriers in current practice patterns and policies
3. Create a plan for supporting unmet needs related to parent feeding during hospitalization and discharge

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

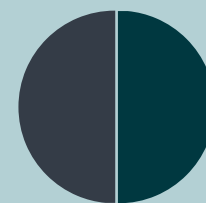
Parent feeding practices in the NICU are influenced by social determinants of health (SDOH), ranging from transportation to cultural beliefs and values to hospital visitation policies and access to services at discharge. This session explores a case study highlighting opportunities to reduce barriers to parent feeding by actively addressing SDOH.



Stefanie LaManna, MS, CCC-SLP, CNT: Stefanie is a speech-language pathologist, certified neonatal therapist, and Associate Director, Health Care Services in Speech-Language Pathology at the American Speech-Language Hearing Association. In her role at ASHA, she serves as the team lead on priorities related to dysphagia management in medically complex and birth-3 populations. She is the Ex Officio to Special Interest Group (SIG) 13: Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders. Her clinical interests include neonatal airway disorders and utilizing FEES in the pediatric population.



Brooke Hatfield, MS, CCC-SLP: Brooke is an Associate Director of Health Care Services in Speech-Language Pathology at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. She has more than twenty-five years of experience as a speech-language pathologist with a clinical background in adult neuro rehabilitation in a variety of settings, and recently completed a master's degree in health care administration as a pandemic project.



THURSDAY

60 MINUTE TALKS

April 25, 2024, 12:30pm – 1:30pm ET

School Meals for Students with Disabilities: Beyond nutrition

SPEAKER

Lily Gullion, OTR/L (PhD Student at UNC- Chapel Hill)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

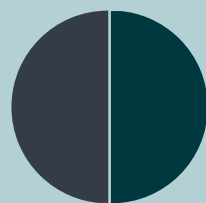
1. Summarize the USDA recommendations and/or mandates for school meals
2. Identify two examples of school responsibility for safety and inclusion during meals at schools
3. Compare and contrast personal and perceived communication strategies with families, school professionals, and healthcare personnel

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

School meals are more than nutrition. This presentation will explore the various ways that families, health care professionals, and school personnel can collaborate to create safe and inclusive mealtime experiences for students with PFD. Participants will learn about policies and share strategies for receiving support in their communities.



Lily Gullion, OTR/L (PhD Student at UNC- Chapel Hill): Lily is a pediatric occupational therapist who has experience in outpatient and school settings. She began her OT career with a professional fellowship which included mentorship in NICU and in a hospital-based feeding clinic. She then worked in school feeding as a feeding team lead, assessing and teaching teachers how to safely provide meals to students with disabilities. Curious about school systems and the nuances of state feeding policies, she returned to school to start a PhD in Occupational Science, a current third-year student focusing on the way federal, state, and school-specific policies impact the participation of students with disabilities during meals.



THURSDAY

60 MINUTE TALKS

April 25, 2024, 1:45pm – 2:45pm ET

Distilling Wisdom: Tube-positive teaching by carers, for carers

SPEAKERS

Chris Elliot, B.Med (Hons) FRACP
Anna Ierardo, Parent
Nick Hopwood, BA (Hons) MsC PhD MD (Honoris Causa)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Identify two risks to carers and children from having limited tube training outside healthcare settings
2. Describe the impact of co-creating tube education with both carers and clinicians
3. Summarize the role of “tube positive” values in feeding-tube education

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

In many families only one adult has been trained to tube feed their child, which can be stressful and isolating. Working with carers, for carers we co-created and evaluated a free education package that aims to safely increase carer expertise and agency in tube feeding including tube-positive values.



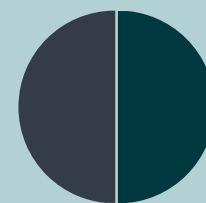
Chris Elliot, B.Med (Hons) FRACP: Chris is a General and Developmental paediatrician in Sydney, Australia. He co- founded the SUCCEED Child Feeding Alliance, an Australian not-for-profit collaboration formed in 2017 between families, clinicians and researchers all focused on children with paediatric feeding disorder, especially those children who require tube-feeding. Dr. Elliot works in both the public and private sectors, is a popular author and teacher and sits on the board of the Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health.



Anna Ierardo, Parent: Anna is a co-founder of the SUCCEED Child Feeding Alliance, an Australian not-for-profit collaboration formed in 2017 between families, clinicians and researchers all focused on children with paediatric feeding disorder, especially those children who require tube- feeding. Anna is the parent of a child who tube-fed at home until the age of 2 years.



Nick Hopwood, BA (Hons) MsC PhD MD (Honoris Causa): Nick is Professor of Education at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) School of International Studies & Education, and Extraordinary Professor in the Department of Curriculum Studies at Stellenbosch University (South Africa). He has over a decade of experience researching services that support parents of young children, and has been a co-leader of the SUCCEED Study since its inception. In this study his role focuses on co-developing educational resources to improve health practices and help everyone in families with children who tube-feed thrive.



THURSDAY

60 MINUTE TALKS

April 25, 2024, 1:45pm – 2:45pm ET

Addressing Families’ Understanding of Pediatric Feeding Disorders

SPEAKER:

Adina Seidenfeld, PhD

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

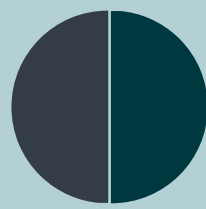
1. Identify 3 common misconceptions or challenges to understanding PFD
2. Examine practices to identify areas (considering common misconceptions) where parents may need additional knowledge/support
3. Describe 3 intervention sessions for parents to gain more information about PFD

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

No known service exists that targets parent understanding of Pediatric Feeding Disorder (PFD). This presentation will describe the challenges with parent understanding of PFD, help attendees evaluate their own practices in relation to these challenges, and share a novel program, the ABCs of Feeding, that aims to support their understanding.



Adina Seidenfeld, PhD: Adina is a Pediatric Psychologist and Clinical Assistant Professor at the Comprehensive Pediatric Feeding and Swallowing Program Nationwide Children’s Hospital and The Ohio State University. She is currently an attending within the transdisciplinary intensive feeding program and addresses behavioral feeding concerns outpatient. In addition to her work in PFD, she has expertise in program development and evaluation. Dr. Seidenfeld assisted with program development in PFD in her role as pediatric psychologist at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. Prior to her work in pediatric feeding, she served as a Senior Clinical Scientist at the Center for Training Evaluation and Community Collaboration, University of Delaware which was aimed at bridging the gap between science and practice. She continues to use an ecological developmental model to inform her work in pediatric care. Dr. Seidenfeld earned her doctorate from the University of Delaware and BA from Washington University in St. Louis. She completed her residency at Nemours Al duPont Hospital for Children, and her postdoctoral experience at The Ohio State Wexner Medical Center.



THURSDAY

60 MINUTE TALKS

April 25, 2024 at 3:00pm – 4:00pm ET

Building Consensus: ARFID & PFD

SPEAKERS

Hayley Estrem, PhD, RN; Will Sharp, PhD; Pamela Dodrill, PhD; and Jenny Thomas, PhD, FAED

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Summarize the diagnostic criteria for ARFID and PFD
2. List next steps based on a case study presentation
3. Identify one area of overlap between the eating disorder and feeding disorder fields that can be leveraged for future research

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

In August 2022, Feeding Matters hosted a Consensus Summit in partnership with Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta and Emory University. This summit brought leaders in the eating disorder and feeding disorder fields together to acknowledge the overlap of the two diagnoses, determine areas of consensus on how to use both diagnoses, and identify best opportunities for assessment. This session will be sharing the details from the Summit and provide insight for the future direction on how both fields can work together to support better outcomes for children.



Hayley Estrem, PhD, RN: Hayley is an assistant professor in the School of Nursing at University of North Carolina Wilmington. Dr. Estrem’s primary research interests are guided by the NIH Symptom Science model and aim to improve family-centered care for children with PFD and/or developmental disabilities. In her research program, Dr. Estrem combines patient centered outcomes measure development, multi-method integration, and the goal of family-centered care for infants and children with special health care needs. Dr. Estrem’s work started with concept analysis of pediatric feeding problems and measure development and she frequently works with interdisciplinary teams to build evidence that addresses the needs of families and children with PFD.



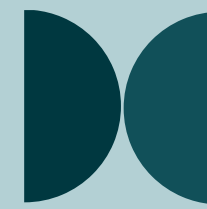
William Sharp, PhD: William is a Director of Children’s Multidisciplinary Feeding Program (Atlanta,GA) and a Professor at Emory University School of Medicine. At Children’s, Dr. Sharp leads a multidisciplinary team of professionals whose mission is to enhance the overall quality of life for children and their families by providing evidenced-based, comprehensive care for children with pediatric feeding disorder and avoidant restrictive food intake disorder (ARFID). His current research focuses on developing and evaluating innovative, community-viable methods of treatment delivery-based on the need to expand the availability of effective interventions both locally and nationally.



Pamela Dodrill, PhD: Pamela works at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital NICU in Boston. She is a Board Certified Specialist in Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders (BCS-S) and a Certified Neonatal Therapist (CNT). She has worked with infants and children with feeding and swallowing disorders for over two decades. Before relocating to Boston to work at Boston Children’s Hospital and Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston, Pamela worked at the Royal Children’s Hospital in Brisbane, Australia. Pamela completed her PhD through the Children’s Nutrition Research Center in Brisbane and continues to conduct clinical research in the area of infants and childhood feeding disorders and their management.



Jennifer Thomas, PhD, FAED: Jennifer is the Co-director of the Eating Disorders Clinical and Research Program at Massachusetts General Hospital, and an Associate Professor of Psychology in the Department of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Thomas’s research focuses on avoidant/restrictive food intake disorder and other atypical eating disorders, as described in her four books – most recently Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy for Avoidant/Restrictive Food Intake Disorder: Children, Adolescents, and Adults; and The Picky Eater’s Recovery Book: Overcoming Avoidant/Restrictive Food Intake Disorder. She is principal investigator on several studies investigating the neurobiology and treatment of avoidant/restrictive food intake disorder, funded by the U.S. National Institute of Mental Health and private foundations.



THURSDAY

5 MINUTE LIGHTNING TALKS

April 25, 2024, 4:00pm – 5:00pm ET

Important Evidence-Based Practice Factors to Consider in Pediatric Feeding Disorders

SPEAKER

Ross Westemeyer, PhD, CCC-SLP

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Describe the components of evidence-based practice and support its value
2. Identify clinician-, research-, and institutional-related barriers to evidence-based practice
3. Summarize the effects that caregivers and multidisciplinary collaboration have on evidence-based practice

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

The current state of evidence-based practice (EBP) in speech-language pathology’s scope of practice in the management of pediatric feeding disorders will be reviewed. Barriers, facilitators, and consideration of other related factors to EBP components (i.e., research evidence, clinical experience, and client perspectives) will be discussed.



Ross Westemeyer, PhD, CCC-SLP: Ross is a postdoctoral research fellow in the Speech & Neurodevelopment Lab at Northeastern University. Ross earned his PhD at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln after receiving his bachelor’s and master’s degrees at the University of Northern Iowa in speech-language pathology. Ross’s research interests include using neuroimaging modalities to characterize neural networks and activity during feeding and swallowing in healthy and clinical populations across the lifespan. As a speech-language pathologist, Ross is interested in addressing the researcher-clinician gap and facilitating use of evidence-based practice in the management of feeding and swallowing disorders.



THURSDAY

5 MINUTE LIGHTNING TALKS

April 25, 2024, 4:00pm – 5:00pm ET

Using Parent-Reported Tools in Assessment for Pediatric Feeding Disorder (PFD)

SPEAKER

Jeanne Marshall, B Sp Path, PhD

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

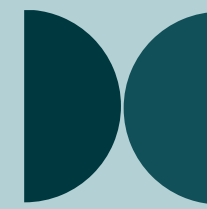
1. Describe the content and application of a Patient (or parent-proxy) Reported Outcome Measure (PROM)
2. List two PROMs available for Pediatric Feeding Disorder (PFD) in children
3. Compare and Contrast existing PROMs for children with PFD

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

This session will provide a practical overview of Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) in assessment for children with Pediatric Feeding Disorder (PFD). We will review the content, application, and interpretation of different PROMs across several case studies, and learn how to critique appropriate PROMs.



Jeanne Marshall, B Sp Path, PhD: Jeanne is a speech pathologist with many years of clinical experience in pediatric feeding and swallowing. She is currently employed in a conjoint research fellow role between Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service and The University of Queensland. Dr. Marshall's research interests include pediatric feeding disorders and dysphagia, particularly education and training, diagnostics, management, and advocacy. Dr. Marshall also has a passion for research translation and in building the links between research and practice.



THURSDAY

5 MINUTE LIGHTNING TALKS

April 25, 2024, 4:00pm – 5:00pm ET

Examining the Association Between Maternal Postpartum Stress and Infant Non-Nutritive Suck

SPEAKER

Alaina Martens, MS, CCC-SLP

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Describe non-nutritive suck and how it has been used to assess infant neurofunction
2. Summarize the association between infant non nutritive suck and maternal postpartum perceived stress
3. Use results to inform clinical practice and consider how maternal stress may influence early feeding

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

To determine the association between maternal postpartum perceived stress and infant non-nutritive suck (NNS) at 3 months. Maternal postpartum perceived stress was associated with reduced NNS burst activity, indicating that mother's who reported higher stress had infants with fewer suck bursts. This is consistent with prior prenatal research.



Alaina Martens, MS, CCC-SLP: Alaina is a 4th year PhD Candidate under the supervision of Dr. Emily Zimmerman at Northeastern University. She received her MS in SLP from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and completed her B.S. in SLP at Texas Christian University. Alaina is passionate about improving developmental outcomes for infants with feeding disorders and her dissertation work has focused on characterizing sucking and feeding development in special populations of infants.



THURSDAY

5 MINUTE LIGHTNING TALKS

April 25, 2024, 4:00pm – 5:00pm ET

Mealtime Reimagined: Initiating a sensory feeding group with medically complex children

SPEAKERS

Stephanie Waters, MS, CCC-SLP, CLC
Elizabeth Curney, MS, OTR/L

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Identify appropriate sensory-feeding goals for medically complex children relying on alternate means of nutrition
2. List two protocols for medically complex pediatric patients targeting developmental feeding and mealtime experience
3. Summarize precautions and contraindications of working with medically complex patients in a feeding group setting

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

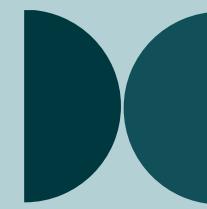
Medically complex children requiring extensive hospitalization and supplemental means of nutrition often are unable to participate in traditional mealtime experiences. This session will provide education on how to create a collaborative, evidence-based sensory feeding group targeting the mealtime experience, sensory exploration, and developmental feeding skills while accounting for medical acuity.



Stephanie Waters, MS, CCC-SLP, CLC: Stephanie graduated from SUNY Geneseo with a B.S. in Speech and Language Disabilities and from New York Medical College with a MS in Speech-Language Pathology. She is a Certified Lactation Counselor and works at St. Mary's Hospital for Children specializing in pediatric feeding disorders, airway management and augmentative and alternative communication.



Elizabeth Curney, MS, OTR/L: Elizabeth graduated from Ithaca College with a B.S. in Health Sciences and from Ithaca College with a MS in Occupational Therapy. She works at St. Mary's Hospital for Children specializing in pediatric rehab, sensory integration, developmental disabilities, visual impairments & assistive technology.



THURSDAY

5 MINUTE LIGHTNING TALKS

April 25, 2024, 4:00pm – 5:00pm ET

Chewing in Minimally Verbal and Verbal Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

SPEAKER

Emily Moran, SLP-CF

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. List two feeding and swallowing patterns in minimally verbal and verbal children with ASD
2. Describe motor ability related to feeding and swallowing and its impact on verbal output
3. Evaluate the effectiveness of operationalized definitions and observable characterizing features of feeding and swallowing, ASD

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

This study looks at chewing in minimally verbal and verbal children with ASD aged 4;1-7;8, (MV=15, V=19). It examines remotely collected data to assess number of chews, number of swallows, duration of chewing cycles, and number of extraneous movements before swallowing; and relate these variables to language and motor skills.



Emily Moran, SLP-CF: Emily graduated from the MGH Institute of Health Professions with a Master of Science in Communication Disorders in September 2023. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Communication and Disorders from the University of Vermont in 2021. She is a Speech and Language Pathology Clinical Fellow at Massachusetts General Hospital, earning her Certificate of Clinical Competence through the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). Emily's clinical experience includes working in public schools and outpatient settings. She has experience evaluating and treating receptive/expressive and pragmatic language disorders, swallowing, augmentative and alternative communication (AAC), and autism spectrum disorder.



THURSDAY

5 MINUTE LIGHTNING TALKS

April 25, 2024, 4:00pm – 5:00pm ET

Health-Related Quality of Life of Parents of Children with Pediatric Feeding Disorders

SPEAKERS

Nadeesha Nirmani, BSc Honours (SLP)
Isuru Dharmarathna, PhD

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. Summarize the overall impact of PFD on affected children and their families
2. Describe the importance of understanding parents'/ caregivers' involvement in management of PFD
3. List two strategies to support parents/ caregivers of children with PFD in intervention

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

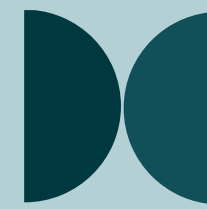
Pediatric feeding disorders (PFD) affects functioning and social participation of children. This presentation reports a study to evaluate the health-related quality of life of parents/ caregivers of children with PFD. The session highlights why and how healthcare systems should focus on parents/ families to improve outcomes for children with PFD.



Nadeesha Nirmani, BSc Honours: Nadeesha is a speech and language pathologist graduated in Speech and Hearing Sciences (Hons) from Department of Disability Studies, University of Kelaniya in 2023. She is currently working at the Wickramarachchi Optical and Hearing Care (Pvt) Ltd. She is passionate about working collaboratively with each individual, staff, children and families, to meet their swallowing and communication goals, and to ultimately maximize their quality of lives. Her specific clinical and research interests are; pediatric feeding disorders, Autism Spectrum Disorder, voice disorders, and augmentative and alternative communication for children.



Isuru Dharmarathna, PhD: Isuru is a speech and language pathologist and currently works at the Swallowing Rehabilitation Research Lab at the KITE as a post-doctoral research fellow. Isuru completed her PhD at The University of Auckland, New Zealand on paediatric dysphagia in 2020 and has contributed to literature on instrumental swallowing assessments by publishing in peer-reviewed journals. She was a recipient of a Commonwealth scholarship to complete her MSc in Clinical Education, University of Edinburgh, UK and is a fellow of the Higher Education Academy, UK. Isuru's research interests are on improving the quality of instrumental swallowing assessments for children and adults.



THURSDAY

5 MINUTE LIGHTNING TALKS

April 25, 2024, 4:00pm – 5:00pm ET

Feeding Therapy Interventions and Frequency of Use: A Pilot Study

SPEAKER

Michelle Beechamp, OTD, OTR/L
Ronise Benson, OTD/S
Madison Farmer, OTD/S

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Identify two gaps in the evidence based treatment of PFD
2. Describe three interventions identified by feeding therapists as the most commonly used in feeding therapy
3. Summarize the procedural steps involved in development of a pilot study

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

This presentation explores a new pilot study being conducted with the goal of determining the most frequently used feeding therapy interventions in an outpatient feeding clinic. This research will provide a foundation for future studies regarding treatment approaches, and provide evidence to support feeding therapy treatment for children with PFD.



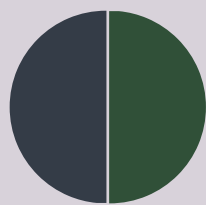
Michelle Beechamp, OTD, OTR/L: Michelle is an occupational therapist and feeding therapist at DVPT. She has been practicing for three years, and graduated from the doctor of occupational therapy program at Northern Arizona University. She is passionate about evidence based practice, research, and providing the highest quality of care to her clients and their families. She uses a client-centered, play-based approach to therapy, meeting her clients where they are at. Feeding therapy is her passion and she is thrilled to begin a research project that will contribute to the growing field.



Ronise Benson, OTD/S: Ronise is currently working towards her doctoral degree in occupational therapy at Northern Arizona University. Her main goal is to help individuals from diverse backgrounds and ages to be self-reliant in their daily activities and provide them with the necessary tools and resources to accomplish their objectives. Ronise is particularly interested in learning more about pediatric feeding disorders and sensory disorders, and is looking forward to collaborating with families and clients to develop tailored intervention plans that best suit their specific needs



Madison Farmer, OTD/S: Madison is an Occupational Therapy doctoral student at Northern Arizona University. She graduated from Arizona State University with a bachelor's in psychology and is passionate about working with children and their families to meet their goals. Her specific clinical and research interests are; pediatric feeding disorders, Autism Spectrum Disorder and children with developmental disabilities.



FRIDAY

60 MINUTE TALKS

April 26, 2024 at 9:00am – 10:15am ET

SYMPOSIUM SESSION

The 2024 Feeding Matters Annual PFD Alliance Symposium: Exploring an education pathway for pediatric feeding disorder

SPEAKERS

Cuyler Romeo, MOT, OTR/L, SCFES, IBCLC
Amy Delaney, PhD
Paula Rabaey, PhD
Erin Ross, PhD
Amber Mieras, FAC Chair, Parent of Child with PFD

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Identify the audience that Feeding Matters can best influence access to and integrate a PFD educational pathway
2. Contrast current PFD educational pathways with actual provider needs and list 2 growth opportunities
3. Identify 2 opportunities for PFD curriculum integration in mainstream educational pathways

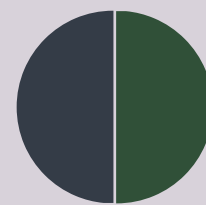
PRESENTATION SUMMARY

The 2024 Symposium aims to outline the key components and strategies involved in the development of an educational pathway for pediatric feeding disorder (PFD). In recognizing the critical need for specialized education in this field, our pillar chairs, along with our director of strategic initiatives will have an open discussion with our PFD Alliance community about what opportunities are available within each pillar to best integrate a pathway and how to determine the optimal course of action when implementing education.

During this unique live event participants will have the opportunity to share challenges and generate ideas through dynamic real-time interaction with other participants, leadership, and families. Participants will leave with new ideas and renewed motivation to move the system of care for PFD towards a brighter future.



Cuyler Romeo, MOT, OTR/L, SCFES, IBCLC: Cuyler has developed a broad clinical understanding of the needs of families and children by serving as an Occupational Therapist and industry expert in pediatric feeding disorder for over 20 years. As the Director of Strategic Initiatives at Feeding Matters, she assists in developing and executing a strategic plan to bring about system wide change for families struggling with pediatric feeding disorder. She utilizes her clinical understanding and leadership expertise to collaborate with constituents in identifying, tracking, and assessing innovative solutions to system problems. Cuyler also has extensive experience facilitating strategic partnerships and aligning diverse groups of people under a common goal. She designed and executed a state-wide multi-disciplinary mentorship program, launched a Community of Practice within the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) and advanced professional development through her position on AOTA's Commission on Continuing Competence and Professional Development (CCCPD). Prior to joining Feeding Matters, she served as a founding partner of a feeding specialty clinic, Mealtime Connections, and rectified system issues on a broader scale as the Director of Clinical Innovation at Therapy 2000. She also treats clinically as a feeding specialist at Banner University Medical Center-Tucson in a Level 3 NICU and speaks professionally.



FRIDAY

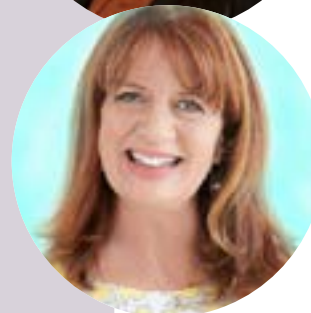
60 MINUTE TALKS



Amy Delaney, PhD: Amy is an Assistant Professor in Speech-Pathology & Audiology at Marquette University. She is the Director of the Neurodevelopmental Feeding and Swallowing Lab focusing on the identification of a norm-reference for feeding development to establish diagnostic criteria and assessment tools for the early and accurate diagnosis of pediatric feeding disorder. Dr. Delaney worked at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin for 20 years in advanced diagnostics and intervention for medically complex children with PFD and dysphagia. She is the Education Pillar Chair for Feeding Matters.



Paula Rabaey, PhD: Paula is Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy at the University of Minnesota. She has 30 years clinical experience in pediatric occupational therapy including early intervention, outpatient, home health, feeding, eating, and swallowing, and NICU. Dr. Rabaey's research and scholarship focuses on children with and without disabilities living in marginalized communities both in the US and abroad with a focus on feeding and mealtimes. Her current project is looking at feeding assessments used by practitioners and the alignment with the PFD diagnosis. She is a feeding technical expert for S POON Foundation and has developed a curriculum to train caregivers in orphanages around the world to safely feed children with disabilities.



Erin Ross, PhD: Erin received her PhD from the University of Colorado in 2007, followed by a 2-year Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the Section of Nutrition at the University of Colorado Denver. Her Master's Degree is in Speech and Language Pathology, from California State University Stanislaus, which she received in 1988. Dr. Ross is currently an assistant clinical professor in the Department of Pediatrics, School of Medicine, University of Colorado and is on faculty at the Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions. She has authored several book chapters and publications related to feeding preterm infants, infants with medical comorbidities, and children with pediatric feeding disorder (PFD). Dr. Ross provides clinical consultation to several NICUs within the HealthONE system in Denver, in addition to providing professional education and research consultation through Feeding Fundamentals. She created SOFFI®, a training program for caregivers in the NICU and in Early Intervention.



Amber Mieras, FAC Chair, Parent of Child with PFD: Amber is the mother of Jax, 8, and Nayeli, 4. Amber connected with Feeding Matters when Jax was an infant and she was looking for information about feeding challenges. She found a wealth of support and knowledge about feeding tubes, therapies, and connections with other families that impacted her entire family. Over the last 7 years, Amber has continued to utilize the Feeding Matters resources and support, serving as the chair on the Family Advisory Council, as a mentor with the Power of Two program, as well as presenting at the 2021 PFD Conference. Amber was an elementary school teacher, mentor, and professional development facilitator for over 16 years serving the Phoenix area as well as a small community outside of Boston. In her spare time, she loves running and hiking, cheering on her alma-mater Arizona State University Sun Devils, and her beloved Red Sox. She loves spending time with her family, watching movies, and being outdoors.



Nikhila Raol, MD, MPH, FAAP: Nikhila is an Associate Professor of otolaryngology-head and neck surgery and health services researcher at Emory, as well as a pediatric otolaryngologist at CHOA. She completed her medical education at the University of Texas southwestern medical center and her otolaryngology training at Baylor college of medicine. She then completed her pediatric otolaryngology training at the Massachusetts eye and ear infirmary, during which time she obtained her Master of Public Health degree at the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health. Her primary research and clinical interests center on the management of children with pediatric feeding disorder and obstructive sleep apnea. When she's not obsessing about how other people's kids eat and sleep, she obsesses over how her three kids and husband and dog eat and sleep. She and her family also love spending time reading, rooting on their favorite sports teams, and enjoying the outstanding Atlanta performing arts scene.



Trusted solutions for patients with cow's milk protein allergy



Nutramigen® with Probiotic LGG® For mild to moderate CMPA



Starts to reduce excessive crying* in less than 24 hours¹



Less eczema in just 4 weeks^{2†}



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Clinically shown to provide relief and support growth^{4§}



More than 2x the DHA of EleCare®^{||}



Ca:P closer to early breast milk than EleCare® or Neocate®[¶]



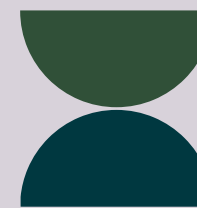
Ca:P = calcium to phosphorus ratio; CMPA = cow's milk protein allergy

*Due to cow's milk allergy. Studied before the addition of DHA, ARA, or LGG. †Reduced eczema (SCORAD index) and blood in stools within 1 month with Nutramigen® with LGG® compared to Nutramigen® without LGG®. ‡Published study showing fewer incidences of asthma, rhinoconjunctivitis, urticaria, and eczema at 3 years compared to Nutramigen® without LGG®. Feeding began at 4 months of age or older in the study. §Compared to study baseline after 12 weeks of feeding. Studied in PurAmino™ Infant before reformulation. ||PurAmino™ has 17 mg and EleCare® has 8 mg of DHA per 100 kcal. ¶Ca:P in EleCare® and Neocate®: 1.4:1 for both.

References: 1. Lothe L et al. *Pediatrics*. 1989;83(2):263-266. 2. Nermes M et al. *Clin Exp Allergy*. 2011;41(3):370-377. 3. Berni Canani R et al. *J Allergy Clin Immunol*. 2017;139(6):1906-1913.e4. 4. Vanderhoof J et al. *J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr*. 2016;63(5):531-533.

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FRIDAY

20 MINUTE TALKS

April 26, 2024 at 10:30am – 11:30am ET

PERSPECTIVES IN PFD

Harmonizing Feeding Therapy with Different Cognitive Developmental Stages in Pediatric Feeding Disorders

SPEAKERS

Kelly Fitzpatrick, CCC-SLP, CLC
Lindsay Beckerman, MOT, OTR/L

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Summarize the pivotal implications of a child's developmental stage for feeding therapy strategies
2. Describe how a therapist's approach and interactions are influenced by the child's Cognitive Developmental stage
3. Identify two ways a child's relationship with food shifts as they progress through the cognitive stages

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

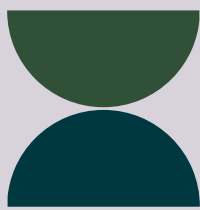
Delve into the interplay between cognitive developmental stages and effective feeding therapy for Pediatric Feeding Disorders. Explore Piaget's cognitive stages and their impact on feeding development, uncovering tailored strategies for optimal progress. Real-life case studies illuminate how therapists can adapt approaches across the lifespan.



Kelly Fitzpatrick, CCC-SLP, CLC: Kelly received her Master of Arts degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders from the University of Memphis. She currently works in a Pediatric Gastroenterology Clinic, where she established a feeding clinic. She works children of all ages, but specializes in children birth to 3 years, and those who are G-tube dependent. Prior to working at the GI clinic, Kelly acted as the Assistant Clinical Director of SOS Feeding Solutions @ STAR with Dr. Kay Toomey and Dr. Lucy Jane Miller. She has also worked in the Early Intervention and Pediatric Outpatient Hospital Settings using the SOS Approach to Feeding program. Kelly is completed the STAR Institute's Intensive Mentorship Program. She is also a Certified Lactation Counselor and a certified DIR Floortime Provider.



Lindsay Beckerman, MOT, OTR/L: Lindsay received her Master of Occupational Therapy degree from Ohio State University. She currently works at Developmental FX, a non-profit clinic supporting children with a wide variety of developmental needs. Prior to this, she worked as a Pediatric Feeding Specialist at SOS Feeding Solutions @ STAR with Dr. Kay Toomey and Dr. Lucy Jane Miller and currently continues to work with Dr. Toomey as an SOS Professor. Lindsay has also worked as a member of a multidisciplinary team with Autism Spectrum Disorders, SPD, emotional/behavioral disorders and feeding problems in a hospital/residential facility. Lindsay has completed the STAR Institute's Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 Intensive Mentorship Programs and is a certified DIR Floortime Provider. She specializes in feeding difficulties in atypical learners, including children and teens with Autism Spectrum Disorders, ADHD, and multisensory processing difficulties. Lindsay also serves as a board member for Charlotte's Day, a non-profit group that helps to provide posturally supportive chairs to children in feeding therapy.



FRIDAY

20 MINUTE TALKS

April 26, 2024 at 10:30am – 11:30am ET

PERSPECTIVES IN PFD

Clinical Insights and Caregiver Voices: Home-based medically-complex tube weaning

SPEAKERS

Brianna Miluk, MS, CCC-SLP, CLC
Denise Clark, Parent

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Describe the importance of family-driven care in supporting functional outcomes for feeding therapy
2. Relate caregiver experiences to current clinical practices to improve tube weaning approaches
3. Define motor learning principles and their application to feeding and oral motor skills

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

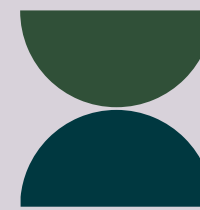
Discover a transformative approach to home-based pediatric tube weaning in a medically- complex case. Using a family-driven, responsive approach, we will address medical, nutritional, feeding skills, and psychosocial factors, including the importance of a multidisciplinary approach. Gain invaluable insights from real-life caregiver experiences and clinical expertise for compassionate, successful tube weaning.



Brianna Miluk, MS, CCC-SLP, CLC: Brianna is a speech language pathologist in Greenville, SC who serves patients in home, clinic, and telepractice settings with a clinical focus on medically-complex patients with pediatric feeding disorders. Bri is an Instructor for Pennsylvania Western University and is working on her PhD in Communication and Information Sciences with an emphasis on research and misinformation dissemination on social media in pediatric feeding. When Bri isn't working or studying, she enjoys playing kickball or volleyball and making reels like a true millennial (you can follow her on Instagram @pediatricfeedingslp).



Denise Clark: Denise is the mother of a child who had a pediatric feeding disorder. She is a strong advocate for her child and enjoys supporting other caregivers through their journeys. Denise enjoys spending time with family.



FRIDAY

20 MINUTE TALKS

April 26, 2024 at 10:30am – 11:30am ET

PERSPECTIVES IN PFD

ABA's Role in Feeding 101

SPEAKER

Theresa Bartholomew, BCBA

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

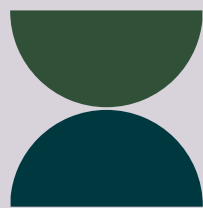
1. Summarize the science and research that supports the use of ABA interventions for feeding
2. Apply principles to develop feeding interventions, enhance client dignity and promote positive outcomes
3. Identify two ABA strategies that can foster effective support aligned with the child's developmental needs

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) offers approaches for treating Pediatric Feeding Disorders (PFD) and Avoidant Restrictive Food Intake Disorder (ARFID). Sharing our evidence-based techniques, ABA can address feeding challenges in a lead or collaborative role. It's comprehensive focus on the whole child ensures personalized interventions and enhancing overall treatment strategies.



Theresa Bartholomew, BCBA: Theresa is seasoned a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst with over 25 years of experience, specializing in aiding children diagnosed with autism, down syndrome, sensory processing disorder, anxiety, Gastrostomy Tubes, chewing difficulties, pill swallowing and ADHD/ADD. Employing the principles of applied behavior analysis, she has dedicated 15 years to enhancing children's eating habits. Theresa underscores the profound, lasting impact of feeding on both the child and their family, advocating for early intervention to counteract the misconception that "picky eating" naturally resolves. Her expertise, dawn from professional practice and personal encounters, includes successfully addressing her own son's feeding challenges by applying the same principles she employs professionally. This perspective equips her to comprehend the unique hurdles families encounter and to devise tailored, research-grounded programs for enduring success. Rooted in applied behavior analysis, her approach emphasizes creating observable change through strategic techniques and procedures. Collaborating closely with treatment team, Theresa crafts comprehensive programs that offers a personalized approach to each client, ensuring that children receive dedicated attention aligned with their needs.



FRIDAY

20 MINUTE TALKS

April 26, 2024 at 10:30am – 11:30am ET

DELIVERING PFD SERVICES

Virtual Family-Based Care for Avoidant/Restrictive Food Intake Disorder

SPEAKER

Jessie Menzel, PhD

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

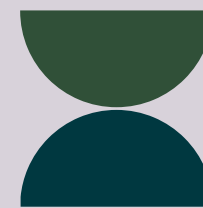
1. Explain the clinical presentation of avoidant/restrictive food intake disorder
2. Compare family based treatment approaches for avoidant/restrictive food intake disorder
3. Describe 16 week treatment outcomes for virtual family-based treatment for avoidant/restrictive food intake disorder

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

There are limited treatment options for the feeding and eating disorder avoidant/restrictive food intake disorder. For other childhood eating and psychiatric disorders, family-based approaches to treatment are considered best practice; however accessibility is lacking. We describe a virtual approach to family-based care and evaluate treatment outcomes for this approach.



Jessie Menzel, PhD: Jessie is the Vice President of Program Development at Equip. A clinical psychologist with over 15 years of specialized experience in eating disorders, Dr. Menzel earned her PhD in clinical psychology from the University of South Florida and is also the founder and former director of the Pediatric Program at the UCSD Eating Disorders Center. She has conducted national and international training on treating eating disorders and has supervised graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and psychiatry residents. Her research experience includes body image, child & adolescent eating disorders, and the newest eating disorder: avoidant/restrictive eating disorder (ARFID).



FRIDAY

20 MINUTE TALKS

April 26, 2024 at 10:30am – 11:30am ET

DELIVERING PFD SERVICES

Meeting Halfway: A multidisciplinary approach to PFD treatment in children with autism

SPEAKERS

Emily Bragg, MS, CCC-SLP
Jessica Owens, CPNP-PC
Sharon Wallace, RD, CSP, LDN

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

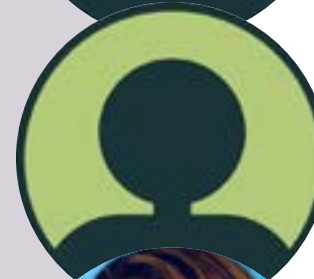
1. Apply therapeutic techniques and strategies that address feeding challenges in children with autism
2. Summarize common gastrointestinal issues that relate to feeding difficulties in children with autism and management
3. Demonstrate how nutrition outcomes improve utilizing a multidisciplinary focus in children with PFD and autism

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

Children with autism are at higher risk for restricted diets, gastrointestinal disorders, and familial stress than children who do not have autism. Through case studies and discussion of a collective, multidisciplinary model used by our feeding team, our team will highlight examples of positive feeding outcomes for this unique population.



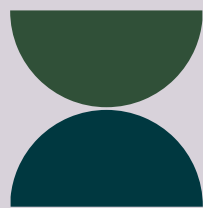
Emily Bragg, MS, CCC-SLP: Emily is a speech-language pathologist who is dedicated to providing the highest quality care to infants and children with feeding and swallowing disorders. She graduated with her bachelor's degree from the George Washington University in 2016, and her master's degree in speech-language pathology from the University of North Carolina in 2018. She completed her clinical fellowship and then spent several years working with the intensive feeding program at the Marcus Autism Center at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, where she received extensive training in oral motor development, autism spectrum disorder, and evidence-based therapeutic strategies which benefit this population. In 2021 she returned to North Carolina and joined the UNC Feeding Team.



Jessica Owens, CPNP-PC: Jessica joined the UNC Feeding Team in late 2021 as a pediatric gastroenterologist nurse practitioner. Jessica received her BSN from Queens University of Charlotte-Presbyterian School of Nursing. Jessica later completed her Masters of Science in Nursing from Duke University School of Nursing with a pediatric primary care focus while gaining experience as an RN in adult and pediatric medicine at Duke University Hospital. Jessica has a background in pediatric primary care working as a nurse practitioner prior to joining the Feeding Team. Her interests include behavioral approaches to feeding difficulties and the impacts of nutritional deficiencies as it relates to child behaviors and feeding.



Sharon Wallace, RD, CSP, LDN: Sharon is board certified in Pediatric Nutrition by the Commission on Dietetic Registration and has worked as a pediatric dietitian for almost 3 decades in various capacities including inpatient teaching hospitals, a private practice, consultative roles and outpatient clinic settings. She has practiced at UNC Children's Hospital and has been in her current position as a Pediatric Specialty Clinic Dietitian for 15 years. Sharon has been working with the pediatric feeding team since its inception in 2012 and loves watching the transformation in eating skill, growth and overall nutrition that patients develop as an outcome of the interdisciplinary collaboration from the feeding team. Areas of particular interest include children with special health care needs, GI nutrition and enteral feeding. Sharon graduated with a BA in Nutrition with double major in Psychology from Russell Sage College in Troy, NY followed by a nutrition internship at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, TN.



FRIDAY

20 MINUTE TALKS

April 26, 2024 at 10:30am – 11:30am ET

DELIVERING PFD SERVICES

Addressing PFD in Neurodiverse Children in Schools: Success stories and lessons learned

SPEAKER

Margaryta Kuzmin, MA, CCC-SLP, TSSLD-BE

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

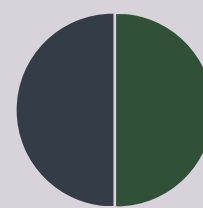
1. List 3 challenges that SLPs encounter when addressing PFD in neurodiverse children within school settings
2. Describe three potential school-team related hindrances that may impede feeding/swallowing progress in students
3. Identify effective ways to foster interdisciplinary collaboration within the school-team, optimizing feeding and swallowing interventions

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

With a decade's experience as a school-based speech-language pathologist specializing in treating medically complex students, addressing Pediatric Feeding Disorders (PFD) in educational settings proves a formidable challenge. The case studies highlight collaborative efforts, obstacles encountered, and their influence on students' feeding outcomes.



Margaryta Kuzmin, MA, CCC-SLP, TSSLD-BE: Margaryta is a Pediatric Bilingual Speech-Language Pathologist with over 10 years of experience in the New York City Department of Education District 75 (Special Education) and Early Intervention. She specializes in pediatric feeding and swallowing disorders, mentors graduate students, and guest lectures at universities. Currently she is pursuing Board Certified Swallowing Specialist accreditation. Margaryta is a published author and a recipient of multiple ACE awards from ASHA and Better Speech and Hearing Month Awards from UFT (United Federation of Teachers). She has also published articles addressing pediatric feeding disorders within school settings for ASHA's Special Interest Group SIG 16: School-Based Issues.



FRIDAY

60 MINUTE TALKS

April 26, 2024 at 12:30pm – 1:30pm ET

GI Didn't Think About That! Factors to consider when starting feeding therapy

SPEAKERS

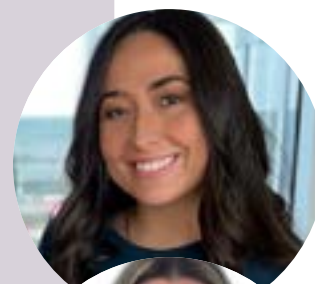
Kristine Perez, MS, CCC-SLP
Jessica Martin, MS, OTR/L, CLT, CLC
Stephanie Kern, MS, OTR/L, CLC

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. List three factors that can impact a child's progress in feeding therapy
2. Describe how to coach caregivers to prepare a child for success in feeding therapy
3. Implement strategies to address these areas in feeding therapy as they arise

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

Research suggests that family readiness, mealtimes routines, bowel regimen, and sleep routines are associated with feeding outcomes. Addressing these areas is paramount when considering all four domains of PFD. This course will review how to address these areas to set the family unit up for long-term success.



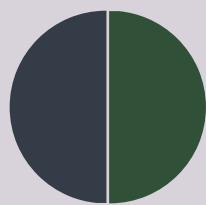
Kristine Perez, MS, CCC-SLP: Kristine is a bilingual feeding therapist with the Feeding Difficulties Center at Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children. Kristine has been in pediatrics since 2017 and she specializes in the evaluation and treatment of oropharyngeal feeding and swallowing. Kristine has a passion for providing inclusive, patient- and family-centered care which drives her treatment style.



Jessica Martin, MS, OTR/L, CLT, CLC: Jessica has been an occupational therapist since 2009 and has specialized in pediatrics for most of her career. Early on she developed an interest in the complex area of feeding while working with children in outpatient and early intervention settings. This led to a position at the multidisciplinary Feeding Difficulties Center at Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children. She is also a certified lactation counselor and certified children's yoga teacher.



Stephanie Kern, MS, OTR/L, CLC: Stephanie has been an occupational therapist since 2014. Although she has experience with both pediatric and adult populations, she has always had a passion for working in pediatrics. She specializes in pediatric feeding disorders at the Feeding Difficulties Center at Arnold Palmer Hospital for children. She has since received her certification as a lactation consultant and is certified in yoga for children.



FRIDAY

60 MINUTE TALKS

April 26, 2024 at 12:30pm – 1:30pm ET

Role of Blenderized Tube Feeding in Pediatric Feeding

SPEAKER

Liz Evenson, MS, RD, LD, CLC

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

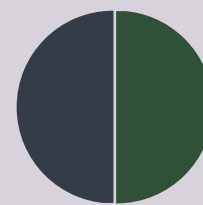
1. Summarize best practices for use of blenderized formulas
2. Formulate and implement a tube feeding plan using blenderized formula
3. Describe and analyze the nutrient content of blenderized formulas

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

Blenderized formulas can play an important role in the nutrition support of children with PFD who require tube feeding. With increased prevalence of use, practitioners must be educated on appropriate use of these formulas and understand the pros and cons to make better decisions when selecting and using these formulas.



Liz Evenson, MS, RD, LD, CLC: Liz is a pediatric dietitian in the Department of Clinical Nutrition and Lactation and the Comprehensive Pediatric Feeding and Swallowing Program at Nationwide Children's Hospital. She is also a Certified Lactation Counselor. She specializes in working with children with pediatric feeding disorder, other comorbid psychological and/or medical concerns by ensuring they are receiving proper nutrition for adequate growth and development.



FRIDAY

60 MINUTE TALKS

April 26, 2024, at 1:45pm – 2:45pm ET

Interoception as a Feeding Foundation: Considering the complexities of internal cue responses

SPEAKERS

Cassandra Miller, EdD, MS, CCC/SLP

Amy Kurowski-Burt, EdD, MOT, OTR/L

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Describe interoception and list the complex body systems of perceiving, recognizing, and responding to internal cues
2. Examine the relationship between feeding and interoception in children with feeding challenges
3. Summarize the impact of interoception as an important factor during the assessment and treatment of pediatric feeding disorder

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

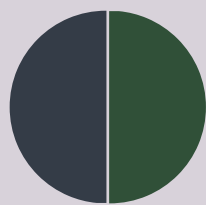
Interoception, the body's perception, recognition, and response to internal cues, is a foundation for regulation of physiological functions. During this session, presenters will introduce interoception and discuss the impact of interoception on pediatric feeding. Case studies will be utilized to connect current literature to functional application for practitioners and families.



Cassandra Miller, EdD, MS, CCC/SLP: Cassandra is an Assistant Professor within the WVU School of Medicine. She has been a practicing SLP for over 15 years and has provided services to children with disabilities for the duration of her career. Dr. Miller is the Director of the WVUCED Feeding and Swallowing Clinic. She is also a clinical supervisor for speech pathology graduate students, an instructor for graduate and undergraduate Disability Studies coursework within the WVU Health Sciences Center, and serves as Program Manager and Mentor for the West Virginia Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) Program. Dr. Miller presents nationally and internationally on pediatric feeding and swallowing.



Amy Kurowski-Burt, EdD, MOT, OTR/L: Amy is an Associate Professor in the WVU Division of Occupational Therapy. Dr. Burt has provided services for children with disabilities for over 15 years in a variety of settings including school-based intervention. She is also an instructor for the WVU Country Roads Program. Country Roads is a two-year on-campus learning program designed to prepare students with disabilities for independence. Dr. Burt is the OT for the WVUCED Feeding and Swallowing Clinic and a LEND Mentor. Her most recent publications and presentations center on interdisciplinary care, neurodiversity, and pediatric feeding. Her efforts have been funded through multiple grants and fellowships. Dr. Burt has also contributed to Project SCOPE ECHO and DreamCatchers and recently presented a pre-conference seminar at the national AOTA Convention.



FRIDAY

60 MINUTE TALKS

April 26, 2024, at 1:45pm – 2:45pm ET

EoE: More than just alphabet soup

SPEAKERS

Emily McGowan, MD, PhD
Tegan Medico, MS, MPH, RDN, CNSC

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- 1. Summarize the clinical presentation and management of eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE)
2. Describe recent findings on the epidemiology of EoE in the U.S. Medicaid population
3. Identify the need for nutritional assessment in patients with EoE

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

Eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE) is an allergic condition that has rapidly transformed over the past 30 years from a case-reportable disease to a major cause of upper gastrointestinal morbidity in the United States. In this talk, Dr. McGowan and Tegan Medico will first discuss the clinical presentation, epidemiology, and natural history of EoE. They will then review emerging data on how EoE may be underdiagnosed, especially in populations with limited access to care. Finally, they will provide an overview of the nutritional assessment in patients with EoE and highlight potential nutritional deficiencies.



Emily McGowan, MD, PhD: Emily is an Associate Professor in the Division of Allergy & Clinical Immunology at the University of Virginia School of Medicine. She completed her undergraduate education at Duke University and thereafter spent a year pursuing research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). She completed her medical training at the University of Virginia, internship/residency training at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, MA, and fellowship training in Allergy/Clinical Immunology at Johns Hopkins. She also completed a PhD in Clinical Investigation at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Her primary research and clinical interest is food allergy, and she is actively pursuing projects to better understand the epidemiology and pathophysiology of Eosinophilic Esophagitis and other Eosinophilic Gastrointestinal Diseases. Dr. McGowan has received funding through the NIH/ National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, AAAAI/ARTrust, FARE, and the American College of Gastroenterology. She is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine and the American Board of Allergy and Immunology and is an active member of the American College of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology, and the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology.



Tegan Medico, MS, MPH, RDN, CNSC: Tegan received her Bachelor of Science in Nutrition/Dietetics from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and completed her graduate dual degree program and dietetic internship at the University of Tennessee, where she earned a Master of Science in Nutrition and a Master of Public Health in Health Planning and Administration. Tegan joined the team at the University of Virginia Health in 2013 as a dietitian in pediatrics. She has worked in a variety of roles: intensive care, gastroenterology, nephrology, transplant, and home health. She now serves the Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, the Pediatric Liver Transplant program, and is coordinator for an elective in pediatric nutrition for UVa's School of Medicine. Additionally, she has held adjunct instructor positions at Piedmont Valley Community College and the University of Virginia. Tegan has given talks on a variety of topics at the local, national, and international levels; has co-written a book, A Kid's Guide to Short Bowel Syndrome; and currently is program chair for the Council for Pediatric Nutrition Professionals of the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition. Tegan is the 2019 recipient of Compass Group's Clinician of the Year Award.



FRIDAY

5 MINUTE LIGHTNING TALKS

April 26, 2024 at 3:00pm – 4:00pm ET

Feeding Characteristics and Behaviors in Young Children with Food Allergies

SPEAKER

Jennifer Kefford, MSLP

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- 1. Summarize feeding characteristics in children with food allergies
2. Describe the impacts of food allergies on feeding
3. Identify feeding characteristics relating to food allergies

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

Preliminary data collected from three major allergy clinics will be presented regarding the feeding characteristics and behaviors of young children (6mths-4;11) with food allergies. The children were categorized into three age groups (6-18 months, 19-35 months, 36-59 months) and any similarities and differences found between the groups will be discussed.



Jennifer Kefford, MSLP: Jennifer has been working as a Speech Pathologist for nearly 20 years across a range of settings. For the last 12 years she has specialised in paediatric feeding managing acute inpatient and hospital outpatient caseloads and community based caseloads. She is currently working full time in community health, managing her local service on a day to day basis and covering a speech and language caseload, and feeding caseload in children aged 0-6 years. Jennifer began her PhD through the University of Queensland part-time, in 2020, investigating the feeding characteristics and behaviours in young children with food allergies.



FRIDAY

5 MINUTE LIGHTNING TALKS

April 26, 2024 at 3:00pm – 4:00pm ET

A Model for PFD Education in SLP Graduate Students: Knowledge and skills

SPEAKER

Cindy Lund, PhD, CCC-SLP, C/NDT

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Summarize the gap and potential need for PFD education in SLP graduate programs
2. Describe a model of content knowledge education of SLP students related to PFD
3. List two characteristics of a model of clinical education of SLP students related to PFD

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

Families with children who have PFD seek professional support for intervention. However, formal education in PFD is provided in less than 1/4 of SLP graduate programs. The purpose of this presentation is to share development and implementation of formal academic and clinical education of SLP graduate students specific to PFD.



Cindy Lund, PhD, CCC-SLP, C/NDT: Cindy is an Associate Professor of Speech-Language Pathology (SLP) at Concordia University Wisconsin, with a PhD in Health Sciences from Northern Illinois University. She founded the Pediatric Feeding Disorder (PFD) clinic on the CUW campus, which is staffed by graduate students in SLP supervised by experienced clinicians. Dr. Lund has over 20 years of clinical experience working with infants and children with PFD, across a variety of settings, including NICU, inpatient/outpatient hospital and rehab, clinic, and private practice. She has completed extensive continuing education and training in the area of pediatric feeding and swallowing and is certified in Neurodevelopmental Treatment. Dr. Lund's research has focused on infants and children with PFD and applications to clinical practice.



FRIDAY

5 MINUTE LIGHTNING TALKS

April 26, 2024 at 3:00pm – 4:00pm ET

Factors Associated with Thickened Feedings and Its Impact at 1-2 Months Post-Term

SPEAKER

Suzanne Thoyre, PhD, RN, FAAN

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

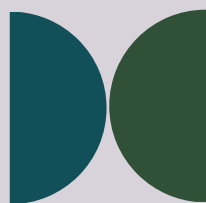
1. Identify characteristics of infants prescribed thickened oral milk prior to discharge from neonatal intensive care
2. Describe parent and family outcomes of thickening milk feedings at 1-2 months post-term age
3. Summarize the impact of thickening milk feedings at 1-2 months post term age

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

This prospective, descriptive study of 46 infants from a level III neonatal intensive care unit that uses thickening as a feeding strategy will provide evidence of who receives thickened milk feedings, and when, and the impact of thickening milk on infants, parents, and their families in their early months post-discharge.



Suzanne Thoyre, PhD, RN, FAAN: Suzanne is Professor at the School of Nursing at UNC-Chapel Hill. Her research focuses on the development of early oral feeding in typically developing and vulnerable children. She co-developed the Early Feeding Skills tool; this clinician-reported tool is used internationally to support the clinical care of infants who are vulnerable to developing chronic feeding disorders. Dr. Thoyre also co-founded the Feeding Flock research team focused on management and prevention of feeding problems of infants and young children. The team extended feeding assessment to the post-discharge period with the development of six parent-report assessment tools for use from 0 to 7 years of age. These tools measure symptoms of problematic feeding, oral and motor feeding skills, parent perception of the impact feeding problems have on themselves and their families, and parent assessment of family management of feeding problems. Currently Dr. Thoyre is completing an NIH-funded R01 which uses these tools to extend our understanding of the development of feeding problems of children with complex medical disorders from birth through 2 years of age.



FRIDAY

5 MINUTE LIGHTNING TALKS

April 26, 2024 at 3:00pm – 4:00pm ET

FEEDS: A transdisciplinary approach to navigating early childhood feeding challenges

SPEAKERS

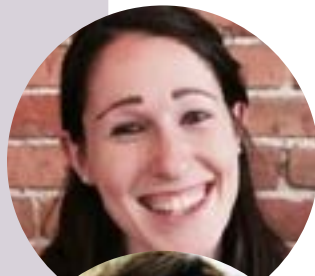
Isabella Herold, MPH, RDN, CDN, CLC
Madeleine Amdur, LCSW, MPH
Anya Holit-Gsell, LMSW
Nazish Pervez, RD, CDN, CLC

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Identify 3 common nutrition- and behavioral-related concerns families have regarding feeding their children
2. Summarize the relationship between caregiver stress levels and pediatric feeding and mealtime behavior challenges
3. Describe how the FEEDS program supports caregivers of children with feeding challenges

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

FEEDS programming, led by a child developmental specialist and a dietitian, provides virtual nutrition, behavior, and development guidance and support for children up to age five with feeding differences, challenging mealtime behaviors, and growth concerns. In this presentation we will discuss the format, successes, and challenges of FEEDS programming.



Isabella Herold, MPH, RDN, CDN, CLC: Isabella received her B.S. in Animal Science from Cornell University and her Masters in Public Health (MPH) from the University of Michigan School of Public Health. Bella's passion for pediatric nutrition began while working in a pediatric development lab at the University of Michigan where she supported research studies on children's perceptions and intake of "healthy" vs "unhealthy foods." Bella completed her dietetic internship through the University of Michigan School of Public Health and started her nutrition career as a dietitian at the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) in Detroit Michigan.



Madeleine Amdur, LCSW, MPH: Madeleine received her B.A. in English from Denison University, and her Masters' in Social Work (MSW) and Public Health (MPH) from Columbia University. Madeleine worked as a social worker and health educator before becoming a Healthy Steps Specialist at Community Healthcare Network (CHN). In collaboration with the community nutritionist, Madeleine worked to create a joint behavioral and nutritional support program for parents of young children called the Family Early Eating and Developmental Skills (FEEDS) program. Madeleine is currently the Director of Community Health Programs at CHN and serves as Chair of CHN's Research Committee.



Anya Holit-Gsell, LMSW: Anya (she/her) received her B.A. in Anthropology from Willamette University, and her Masters in Social Welfare (MSW) at University of California, Berkeley. As a Healthy Steps Specialist and Behavioral Health Therapist at Community Healthcare Network in New York City, Anya works with children ages 0-5 and their families to provide developmental guidance and behavior support. Anya has experience supporting children with feeding concerns across diverse populations and settings. From previous experience leading therapeutic baking groups in children's inpatient mental health, to presently co-facilitating an intensive Family Early Eating and Developmental Skills (FEEDS) program for pediatric feeding concerns, Anya is passionate about helping children and their families feel healthy.



Nazish Pervez, RD, CDN, CLC: Nazish (she/her) received her B.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics from Queens College New York. Nazish completed her Dietetic internship at Queens College as well. As a community Dietitian at Community Healthcare Network, Nazish works with different diverse populations and provides individualized medical nutrition interventions. Prior working at CHN, Nazish worked as a Clinical Dietitian at Highland Nursing Care and Rehab center.



FRIDAY

5 MINUTE LIGHTNING TALKS

April 26, 2024 at 3:00pm – 4:00pm ET

The Effectiveness of a 12 week Feeding Program Emphasizing Parental-Clinician Collaboration

SPEAKER

Ida Barresi, MA, CCC-SLP

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Analyze the impact of a 12-week feeding intervention program, on feeding skills, addressing sensory responsiveness, oral motor skills, mealtime experiences, oral hygiene(toothbrushing), and parental education in children with developmental disabilities and feeding disorders.
2. Summarize the importance of parent-clinician collaboration during feeding intervention programs.
3. Describe two benefits of oral hygiene (toothbrushing) in feeding interventions in children with developmental disabilities and feeding disorders

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

Pediatric feeding disorders affect more than 1 in 37 children under the age of 5 in the United States yearly resulting in unpleasant mealtime experiences. Feeding programs are difficult to access. As a result, children do not receive the necessary intervention impeding nutrition, development, growth and overall well being.



Ida Barresi, MA, CCC-SLP: Ida has been a Speech/Language Pathologist at the Rose F. Kennedy Children's Evaluation and Rehabilitation Center (RFK CERC) in the Bronx, New York for 31 years. She is the Co-Director of the Speech Department that supervises and trains colleagues and prospective graduate students in speech language pathology. As the head of Cerc's Feeding Program, she expanded the program to service more families individually and in groups that run weekly. Ms. Barresi has extensive experience in the treatment and evaluation of speech/language/communication/feeding & swallowing and possesses the following certifications: PROMPT, PECS, and Level 1 SOS Training. In addition she has obtained research reliability in administration of the ADOS-2. She has experience with patients from infancy through adulthood who have autism, cerebral palsy, ADHD, learning disabilities and specific difficulties in the areas of mixed receptive-expressive language, oral motor/motor planning, phonology and articulation, social pragmatics, and selective mutism. Ms. Barresi has research experience in the areas of autism, sleep disorders, oral hygiene, narratives and bilingualism. Ms. Barresi received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Speech/Language Pathology at Iona College and her Master of Arts degree in Speech/Language Pathology from Herbert H. Lehman College.



FRIDAY

5 MINUTE LIGHTNING TALKS

April 26, 2024, 3:00pm – 4:00pm ET

Feeding a Short Gut: A clinician/parent perspective

SPEAKER

Meagan Short, CCC-SLP

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. List two clinical implications of short bowel syndrome on feeding and swallowing
2. Summarize the effects of incorporating family as an integral part of care teams
3. Describe considerations of quality of life when addressing feeding of patients with complex diagnoses

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

Short bowel syndrome (SBS) is a condition in which the body is unable to absorb nutrients from foods due to shortened or damaged bowel. As a mother of a child with short bowel syndrome and a speech-language-pathologist, Meagan Short offers a dual-perspective account of the feeding challenges associated with SBS.



Meagan Short, CCC-SLP: Meagan became a leader in both the intestinal malrotation and short bowel syndrome communities after navigating her son Camden's complications from intestinal malrotation and volvulus. Camden began vomiting 12 hours after his birth, and was life-flighted to a nearby hospital where he underwent multiple surgeries over the course of three days. He was left with 55 cm of small bowel and no ileocecal valve. Camden has participated in the experimental drug protocol for Omegaven at Boston Children's Hospital. Meagan has worked in advocacy roles for the rare disease and nutrition support communities, including TPN and Tube Feeding, and offers a personal 1-to-1 approach to help educate families navigating complex medical and gastrointestinal complications. Meagan is a MedGift ambassador, sits on the Boston Children's Hospital's family advisory board and is a clinically certified speech-language pathologist.



FRIDAY

5 MINUTE LIGHTNING TALKS

April 26, 2024 at 3:00pm – 4:00pm ET

Screening For Pediatric Feeding Disorder, Identifying Patients at Risk for PFD at the Pediatrician's Office

SPEAKER

Lauren Hamilton, MD Student, Class of 2026

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. List two opportunities to expand the referral landscape for children with PFD
2. Describe two symptoms of children and families at risk for PFD
3. Summarize the steps needed to conduct a pilot study for PFD screening

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

The need for early identification of pediatric feeding disorder (PFD) to prevent further or future disability is known, however screening practices are not well established. This talk shares lessons learned from a pilot study conducted at a local pediatrician's office exploring the feasibility of screening for PFD using the ICFQ 6-question screener.



Lauren Hamilton, MD Student, Class of 2026: Lauren is a second year medical student at the U of Arizona College of Medicine - Phoenix. Through her interest in gastroenterology and pediatrics, she became involved with Phoenix Children's Hospital Aerodigestive Clinic and Feeding Matters. In her free time she enjoys training her two Shikoku Inu dogs, crocheting, and reading fiction.

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SAVE THE DATE

We hope to see you again at future Feeding Matters events!



PFD AWARENESS MONTH

May 1-31



[feedingmatters.org/
pfd-awareness-month](https://feedingmatters.org/pfd-awareness-month)

FEEDING + EATING PSYCHOLOGY SUMMIT

August 30



[feedingmatters.org/
psych-summit/](https://feedingmatters.org/psych-summit/)

PFD ALLIANCE TOWN HALL

December (date TBD)



[feedingmatters.org/
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2025 CONFERENCE

February 20-22



[feedingmatters.org/
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