



**ORAL MOTOR,  
FEEDING/SWALLOWING, AND  
RESPIRATORY COORDINATION  
FUNCTION IN CHILDREN WITH  
NEUROMOTOR INVOLVEMENT**



**INSTRUCTOR** - Rona Alexander, PhD, CCC-SP, Speech-Language Pathologist

**Rona Alexander, PhD, CCC-SLP** is a speech-language pathologist specializing in the assessment and treatment of oral motor, feeding/swallowing, and respiratory-phonatory function in infants and children with neuromotor involvement. She maintains a private practice; provides consultation services; and conducts workshops on oral motor, feeding/swallowing, and respiratory coordination development, assessment, and treatment. As a qualified speech instructor in Neuro-Developmental Treatment, Dr. Alexander teaches in basic pediatric and advanced NDT courses. She has contributed chapters on oral motor, feeding/swallowing, and respiratory coordination function to numerous publications; is co-author of the book entitled, *Normal Development of Functional Motor Skills: The First Year of Life*; is author of the ASHA CEU product, *Pediatric Feeding and Swallowing: Assessment and Treatment Programming*; is author of the CEU product, *Focus on the Rib Cage for Improvement of Respiration, Phonation, Movement, and Postural Control*; and is co-developer of the CEU product, *The ABCs of Pediatric Feeding and Swallowing*.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This 3-day workshop will focus on what members of a multidisciplinary team need to know about the assessment and treatment of infants and children with neuromotor impairments and challenges to their oral motor, feeding/swallowing, and respiratory coordination function. Special emphasis will be placed on understanding a variety of areas that may be influencing a child's feeding and swallowing function; the impact that body alignment, active postural control, and sensory factors have on oral motor function; and suggestions for the incorporation of strategies focusing on these areas into treatment programming. Treatment planning and strategies to improve cheeks/lips, tongue, jaw, and rib cage function will be discussed. Group lab sessions, audiovisual materials, and patient demonstration sessions will be used to provide problem-solving experiences to assist participants in integrating information.

**COURSE PARTICIPANTS:**

**Speech Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists.** Professionals who have a foundation of knowledge in the components of typical and atypical oral motor, feeding/swallowing, respiratory-phonatory, and general movement development. Participants should have practical experience in providing services for infants and children with neuromotor involvement.



Australian Bobath  
Neuro-Developmental  
Therapy Association (Inc.)  
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### Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course, participants will be able to:

1. Identify five primary areas that impact on pediatric feeding and swallowing.
2. Describe the areas to be investigated in the clinical assessment of oral motor, feeding/swallowing, and respiratory coordination function in infants and young children.
3. Describe the essential components of comprehensive oral motor, feeding/swallowing, and respiratory coordination intervention programming for young children with neuromotor involvement.
4. Formulate appropriate goals for oral motor, feeding/swallowing, and respiratory coordination treatment programming.
5. Describe and differentiate between the importance for both handling and positioning of the modification of oral motor, oral-pharyngeal, and respiratory function in intervention programming.
6. Identify strategies which may be implemented in order to improve the function of the cheeks/lips, tongue, jaw, and rib cage in children with neuromotor involvement.

### COURSE HOURS

Days 1-2: 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Day 3: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

**Dates & Venues: Gold Coast 4/02/10 – 6/02/10**  
**- MontroseAccess Corner Allied Drive & Byth Street,**  
**ARUNDEL, Queensland**

**Melbourne 10/02/10 – 12/02/10**  
**- APA House Level 1, 1175 Toorak Road,**  
**CAMBERWELL, Victoria**

**Cost: \$ 800.00** ABNDTA members  
**\$ 855.00** Non members (includes year membership to June 2011)

*For further information contact:*

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