



## ***NDT/Bobath Advanced Speech Course (Paediatrics)***

**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 5-day Advanced NDT/Bobath Course has been designed for professionals who have successfully completed an 8-week Pediatric NDT/Bobath Course and are presently providing services for a pediatric population. The two primary areas of respiratory coordination development and its integration into function and feeding and swallowing function as they relate to infants and children with neuromotor involvement will be emphasized throughout the course. Typical and atypical respiratory coordination and feeding/swallowing development will be reviewed in terms of anatomical/structural, kinesiological, and functional characteristics. Primary influences on pediatric feeding and swallowing function including oral, pharyngeal, gastrointestinal, and respiratory/airway issues will be discussed as they relate to assessment and intervention programming. Treatment strategies which focus on the development and integration of rib cage, shoulder girdle, oral, and pharyngeal control for improved respiratory coordination, oral-pharyngeal function for sound production, postural control, and feeding and swallowing function will be discussed, demonstrated, and practiced.

### **COURSE PARTICIPANTS:**

***Speech Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists.*** Professionals who have successfully completed a 7/8 week Paediatric NDT/Bobath Course and are active in clinical practice with a paediatric population.



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

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### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

At the conclusion of the course, participants will be able to:

1. Identify significant anatomical, kinesiological, and developmental characteristics of the rib cage, shoulder girdle complex, and the oral and pharyngeal mechanisms.
2. Identify significant aspects of typical and atypical development as they relate to respiratory coordination with general movement and sound production and feeding and swallowing function.
3. Discuss the influences of oral, pharyngeal, gastrointestinal, and respiratory/airway issues on the feeding and swallowing function of infants and children.
4. Describe the relationship between rib cage, upper extremity, and oral-pharyngeal alignment and movement in typical and atypical function.
5. Demonstrate treatment strategies directed toward the improvement of rib cage, shoulder girdle, oral, and pharyngeal control in order to accomplish appropriate functional goals.

### **COURSE HOURS**

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Total Contact Hours = 35

### **Dates & Venue:**

**Royal Children's Hospital, Brisbane, Queensland (27/01/10 – 31/01/10)**

**Cost:**           **\$1400** ABNDDTA members  
                      **\$1455** Non members (includes year membership to June 2011)

*For further information contact:*

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