



## The Pediatric Client with a Neurological Impairment

**Tuition:** \$625 (plus \$190 per credit hour if taken for graduate credit)

**Hours:** 29 or 2.9 CEUs or 3 graduate credits

**Prerequisite:** None

**Who Attends:** Physical Therapists and Occupational Therapists

The goal of the seminar is to provide participants with advanced knowledge and application of skilled observation and intervention for the special needs of the pediatric client with a neurological impairment. The lecture component will include updates on treatment approaches used in pediatric intervention (motor learning and control theory, neurodevelopment principles (NDT), myofascial release treatment principles, oral motor treatment, positioning, strengthening, and other treatment techniques) with an emphasis on evidenced based practice.

During the lab component, participants will learn NDT, myofascial release, strengthening, and other techniques to facilitate functional skills in infants and children with congenital and acquired movement disorders.

### Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of this seminar the attendee should be able to:

- compare common theoretical approaches (motor learning and control theory, neurodevelopmental principles (NDT), myofascial release treatment principles, oral motor treatment, positioning, strengthening, and other treatment techniques) commonly used in treating the pediatric client with a neurological impairment
- apply graded handling techniques at the appropriate level for therapeutic intervention
- identify and control abnormal central nervous system responses
- discuss the implications of alignment problems on the myofascial and neuromuscular system
- compare treatment options for alignment problems
- discuss the relationship between the suck-swallow-breathe synchrony, the respiratory system and postural development
- apply NDT techniques and myofascial lengthening techniques to decrease spasticity and elongate muscles
- apply the concepts of graded sensory input and responses, facilitation, inhibition, oscillation, elongation, joint compression, traction, and myofascial release to decrease spasticity, elongate muscles and facilitate functional skills
- recommend appropriate treatment techniques based on evidenced-based practice
- compare motor assessments commonly used in pediatrics and their usefulness in children with neurological impairments

DAY ONE	DAY TWO	DAY THREE	DAY FOUR
9:00 - 10:15 Lecture: Comparing theoretical approaches used in pediatrics: Evidence based practice	8:00-10:15 Lecture: Relationship between myofascial release and NDT	8:00 - 10:15 Lecture: Suck-Swallow-Breathe Synchrony	8:00 - 10:15 Lecture: Assessment Methods & Tools in Pediatrics
<b>10:15 AM BREAK</b>	<b>10:15 AM BREAK</b>	<b>10:15 AM BREAK</b>	<b>10:15 AM BREAK</b>
10:30 - 12:00 Lab: Cont'd Update on current treatments for spasticity	10:30 - 12:00 Lab: Myofascial release technique (1 hand, 2 hand, Cross-hand, Elongation using myofascial techniques and NDT techniques	10:30 - 12:00 Lecture: Cont'd The influence of the respiratory system on postural development	10:30 - 12:00 Lab: Putting it together: Assessing postural & oral responses during handling
<b>LUNCH HOUR</b>	<b>LUNCH HOUR</b>	<b>LUNCH HOUR</b>	<b>LUNCH HOUR</b>
1:00 - 3:15 Lab: Grading sensory input, assessing postural reactions, use of balance reactions to assess mobility	1:00 - 3:15 Lab Treating the shoulder girdle & neck; spine & pelvis	1:00 - 3:15 Lab: Application of NDT and myofascial techniques to feeding	1:00 - 4:15 Lec: Working with the medically fragile child: NICU, PICU, Assessing and handling the medically fragile child
<b>3:15 PM BREAK</b>	<b>3:15 PM BREAK</b>	<b>3:15 PM BREAK</b>	
3:30 - 5:30 Lab Abnormal CNS responses: concepts of inhibition and facilitation, NDT oscillation, positioning	3:30 - 5:00 Lab: Using NDT & myofascial techniques in functional activities: myofascial sleeve releases, treatment of the distal extremities	3:30 - 4:00 Lecture: Facilitating oral motor skills & swallowing 4:00 - 5:00 Lab: Facilitating oral motor skills	

## **Bonnie R. Decker, Associate Professor**

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MHS         University of Florida, Gainesville, FL  
EdD         University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL  
BCP         American Occupational Therapy Association

Ms. Decker is currently Associate Professor and Academic Fieldwork Coordinator in the occupational therapy program at the University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences in St. Augustine, Florida. She received her bachelor's degree in occupational therapy from Western Michigan University and her master's degree in occupational therapy from the University of Florida. She completed coursework in early childhood special education at the University of Southern Mississippi and is currently enrolled in a doctoral program at the University of Central Florida. Bonnie is a Board Certified Pediatric occupational therapist. Bonnie is certified in pediatric neurodevelopmental treatment (NDT), in the administration and interpretation of the Sensory Integration and Praxis Test (SIPT), the Neonatal Behavioral Assessment Scale and Assessment of Premature Infant Behavior. She has worked in acute care, the neonatal intensive care unit, in preschool programs, and in the public schools.