

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

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

## Faculty

Mary (Polly) Tarbell-Bickley engages students with her dynamic presentation style and deep expertise gained over 29 years as a speech-language pathologist specializing in pediatric feeding disorders. She currently works at the University of Virginia's Children's Hospital in Charlottesville, Virginia. She is the director of the nationally-known Encouragement Feeding Program, through which she has directly seen over 600 children with complex feeding disorders. She has published a peer reviewed article in *Infants and Young Children* regarding weaning children from gastrostomy tubes and has co-published a chapter in *Communication Sciences and Disorders: An Introduction*, 2006. She currently lectures at the University of Virginia Curry School of Education regarding pediatric feeding disorders.

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

## About this Live Webinar

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

## Objectives

- 1 Identify children who are appropriate for oral functional therapy.
- 2 Perform a holistic evaluation for complex feeding problems.
- 3 Identify the barriers to normal eating patterns and reasonable treatment goals.
- 4 Develop a holistic treatment approach, including determining treatment priorities and the appropriate intensity of therapy (including issues of timing as to when to use resources differently).

## Audience

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

## Schedule – Day 1 9:40 am - 6:15 pm EST (US)

- 9:40-10:00 Webinar Registration/Zoom Course Opens
- 10:00-12:00 Holistic evaluation from NICU to home: Assessment of the elements that impact feeding - cardiac, respiratory, gastro-intestinal, growth, medications and oral structures including ankyloglossia
- 12:00-12:15 **Break**
- 12:15-1:30 Holistic evaluation: Impact of sensory, motor and developmental issues on feeding
- 1:30-2:15 Lunch
- 2:15-4:30 Holistic evaluation: Impact of anxiety, environment and parent-child interactions on feeding and eating
- 4:30-4:45 **Break**
- 4:45-5:45 Analyzing and determining the barriers to functional feeding
- 5:45-6:15 **Case Studies - Clinical Problem-Solving:**  
Autism, Chromosomal disorders, Prematurity, Structural deficits.

## Schedule – Day 2 9:40 am - 5:45 pm EST (US)

- 9:40-10:00 Webinar Registration/Zoom Course Opens
- 10:00-12:00 Foundations for feeding the toddler/young child, physiological readiness for optimal outcomes
- 12:00-12:15 **Break**
- 12:15-2:00 The importance of play, sensory integration and behavior management: Techniques that work
- 2:00-2:45 **Lunch**
- 2:45-4:30 Treatment techniques that take the whole child into consideration
- Case Studies - Clinical Problem-Solving:**  
Including children with selective eating issues, oral motor impairments, oral hypersensitivity and oral inexperience
- 4:30-4:45 Break
- 4:45-5:45 Treatment elements and techniques  
Outcome measurement

“This course exceeded my expectations and answered many questions. The approach reached a level that has been difficult to find.”

- J. Hammer, Class Participant

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Continuing Education Hours for disciplines not listed below: 13.5 contact hours (1.35 CEUs). Intermediate level.

The IL EI Training program has approved this event for 13.5 hrs of EI credential credit in the area of intervention.

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Education Resources, Inc is approved by the Continuing Education Board of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) to provide continuing education activities in speech-language pathology and audiology. **See course information for number of ASHA CEUs, instructional level and content area.** ASHA CE Provider approval does not imply endorsement of course content, specific products or clinical procedures.

This course is offered for up to 1.35 ASHA CEUs (Intermediate level, Professional area).

This program has been submitted for approval of 13.5 clock hours of continuing education credit by the TX Speech Language-Hearing-Association (TSHA). TSHA approval does not imply endorsement of course content, specific products or clinical procedures

Dieticians will receive 13.5 hours or 1.35 CEUs

Please contact us with any special needs requests: [info@educationresourcesinc.com](mailto:info@educationresourcesinc.com) or 800-487-6530.

## Webinar Dates and Times

March 13-14, 2021

9:40 am EST • 8:40 am CST • 7:40 am MST • 6:40 am PST (US)

Registration is for all sessions. Zoom log-in instructions and course materials will be emailed/added to your ERI account 5-7 days prior to the first date of the Webinar.



**\$369 fee. LIMITED ENROLLMENT**

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

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

**March 13-14, 2021**

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Needed in the event of an emergency scheduling change

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