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Type Registration	Definition	Price
Group rate	Register 20 or more	\$40
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Course #	Course Title	
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Webinar Cancellation Policy: Motivations, Inc. reserves the right to discontinue or reschedule a course from our listing of options. Should you have already registered, you will receive a full refund. Participants may receive a full refund when requesting cancellation 24 hours prior to the the webinar. After that time, a credit for a future Motivations event may be awarded.

Special Needs Requests: Please email us any special needs related to vision, hearing, accessibility or any other considerations to completing the course so we can assist in advance.



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ASHA CE
APPROVED PROVIDER

Motivations, Inc.

Introductory Level
0.3 ASHA CEUs

WEBINAR

#7393 Welcome to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit: Feeding and Dysphagia Fundamentals For The Speech-Language Pathologist

Instructor: Raquel Garcia, SLP-D, CCC-SLP, CLC,
CNT, BCS-S

Audience:
Speech Therapists

Delivery Options:
Live Webinar or Self-Study Options

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SUMMARY: Oral feeding is a primary developmental milestone and a key determinant of discharge readiness in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). However, feeding acquisition in neonates is a complex, multifactorial process influenced by medical fragility, neurologic immaturity, and the coordination of suck–swallow–breathe physiology. Preterm and medically complex infants often present with underdeveloped respiratory systems, immature neurobehavioral organization, and limited physiologic stability, all of which directly impact safe and efficient oral feeding.

In addition to prematurity, neonates may present with a range of co-occurring conditions, including neurological injury, craniofacial differences, upper airway abnormalities, and cardiopulmonary disease. These factors significantly increase the risk for feeding delays, dysphagia, and aspiration, requiring specialized assessment and interdisciplinary management within the NICU setting.

The purpose of this presentation is to provide foundational knowledge for clinicians beginning practice as neonatal therapists in the NICU. This course will review normal neonatal anatomy and physiology as it relates to feeding and swallowing, introduce principles of neurodevelopmental care and neuroprotection, and explore common neonatal medical comorbidities and respiratory support modalities that influence feeding readiness and progression.

The overarching goal is to equip novice clinicians with an evidence-informed framework to support safe, developmentally appropriate feeding and swallowing care for medically fragile neonates and their families within the NICU environment.

(Introductory Level)

PRESENTER: Raquel Garcia, SLP-D, CCC-SLP, CNT, BCS-S

Dr. Raquel Garcia has been a speech-language pathologist since 2012. She is a board-certified specialist in swallowing and swallowing disorders who has worked across the continuum of infant critical care units, including the neonatal intensive care unit, infant cardiac transplant unit, and respiratory intensive care unit. She is a co-collaborator and research manager for Tiny Tots Transition to Home, a caregiver education program, that promotes parent support and peer to peer networking during the NICU admission. She is an active clinical researcher who is passionate about promoting parental confidence and competence when feeding their infant, regardless of the infant's medical history or diagnoses. Her clinical interests include infant feeding, breastfeeding, dysphagia, upper airway disorders, neonatal therapy, and health literacy. The instructor(s) does not have any financial and non-financial relationships to disclose.

OBJECTIVES: Upon completion of this course, the participant will be able to:

1. Describe the normal anatomy and physiology of neonates as it relates to feeding and swallowing function.
2. Identify and summarize common neonatal medical comorbidities and their impact on feeding and swallowing safety.
3. Define and apply the concept of neuroprotection in the context of neonatal developmental care and feeding practice.
4. Interpret and analyze the role of the neonatal speech-language pathologist within the interdisciplinary NICU team, including evaluation and intervention responsibilities.

FORMAT: This is a 3-hour course equivalent to 3 CEU's or 0.3 CEUs offered as a live webinar or self-study. Instructors present the live course content via an internet website displaying real time power points. Learners will receive a course instruction link. Instructors lecture through livestreaming internet on your computer. Questions may be asked during the webinar using the chat feature or the "raise hand" feature for live discussion.

SLP CEU's: This course is offered for 0.3 ASHA CEUs (Introductory level, Professional area).

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AGENDA:

Pre-Study: 30 Minutes Plan to read the course materials, references and review the post test before the start time. Please be prepared to share patient case study and related question during the discussion time.

Time Increment	Topic
5 minutes	Introduction of Speaker and Disclosures and Objectives
20 minutes	Overview of Normal Anatomy and Physiology
20 minutes	Review Synactive Theory of Infant
30 minutes	Overview of Neonatal Environment and Neonatal Care
30 minutes	Examine Medical Co-morbidities
15 minutes	Summary, Questions and Answers

Post-test: Research, identify, and submit your post test question answers on the online form. This is an open book test you can take multiple times if needed to obtain the 70% score (Allow 30 minutes for these completion tasks)