

Catherine Shaker 2026 Seminars

For those in EI, hospital, private practice or school-based

PEDIATRIC RESOURCES INC.
P O Box 9
Flagler Beach, FL 32136

ROUTE TO:

- Speech-Language Pathologists
- Occupational Therapists
- Physical Therapists

Catherine Shaker Seminars 2026

ADVANCED INFANT AND PEDIATRIC DYSPHAGIA

Problem-Solving Complex Patients and Issues

- ❖ June 27-28 Long Beach CA
- ❖ August 1-2 San Antonio TX
- ❖ Sept 27-28 Fremont CA
- ❖ Oct 12-13 Dallas TX

PEDIATRIC SWALLOWING/ FEEDING

The Essentials

- ❖ June 25-26 Long Beach CA
- ❖ July 29-30 San Antonio TX
- ❖ Sept 25-26 Fremont CA

PEDIATRIC VIDEOFLUOROSCOPIC SWALLOW STUDIES

From Physiology to Analysis

- ❖ July 31 San Antonio TX
- ❖ Oct 14 Dallas TX

NICU SWALLOWING AND FEEDING

In the Nursery and After Discharge in EI

- ❖ June 29-30 Long Beach CA
- ❖ Sept 29-30 Fremont CA
- ❖ Oct 15-16 Dallas TX

FACULTY

Benefit from instructors who are highly experienced with complex neonatal and pediatric patients

Catherine Shaker MS/CCC-SLP, BCS-S is a Neonatal/Pediatric Speech-Language Pathologist with over 48 years' experience with neonates, medically fragile infants, and children through school age with complex needs across the continuum of pediatric settings. An ASHA Board Certified Specialist in Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders, Ms. Shaker has worked full-time in large Level III and IV NICUs for over 40 years, most recently at Advent Health for Children in Orlando. She has published several manuscripts on NICU intervention, and co-authored The Early Feeding Skills Assessment Tool with Dr. Suzanne Thoyre. Ms. Shaker received the Pioneer Award from NANT (The National Association of Neonatal Therapists) and is a recognized leader in NICU practice and supporting EI clinicians following NICU graduates. She is trained in NDT (Neurodevelopmental Treatment) and FEES. Ms. Shaker is an invited lecturer internationally and nationally for therapists, nurses, physicians, and families.

Theresa Gager MS/CCC-SLP has over 40 years' experience as a Pediatric Speech-Language Pathologist, with children from infancy through school age with complex swallowing, feeding, oral-motor and respiratory problems. She is NDT trained, and has provided services for complex infants and children in schools, outpatient, home health, EI and the NICU. Teaches and consults. Down to earth, a sought-after problem-solver.



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"...Every feeding experience matters..."

~Catherine Shaker

ADVANCED INFANT/PEDIATRIC DYSPHAGIA: Problem-Solving Complex Patients and Issues

Instructor: Catherine Shaker

Two days of learning along with a master clinician. This timely interactive seminar will bring you essential information to enhance your effectiveness as a specialist in pediatric swallowing and feeding and a sought-after member of your team. Correlating clinical data, co-morbidities (airway/GI/nutrition/neurologic/oral motor/sensory), and the infant/child's behaviors is at the heart of completing a good differential. Apply critical problem-solving skills to complex diagnoses and their interaction, for NICU infants through school-aged children. Explore hot topics in dysphagia (e.g., thickening, NMES, swallow studies, tongue tie) practice issues, therapist-physician relationships. Discuss your challenging patients. Perfect for both the novice to take it all in, and for the experienced clinician searching for an advanced level of problem-solving for complex cases and professional issues. Attendees are encouraged to bring at least one case study to problem-solve with the group

Learning Outcomes:

- Apply system-based differential diagnosis specific to clinical presentation of feeding/swallowing problems
- Apply critical reflective thinking to complex feeding/swallowing issues
- Discuss strategies to address a wide range of feeding/swallowing problems
- Explain key concepts/challenges/evidence specific to at least three "hot topics" in pediatric dysphagia
- Navigate therapist-physician/team interactions

Seminar Content

- Complex interaction of respiratory, GI, airway, sensory and postural co-morbidities
- Case discussions and problem-solving
- Current challenges in service delivery across EI, hospital, school, and community settings
- Broad range of interventions and individualizing plans of care specific to clinical presentation

This course is offered for 1.3 ASHA CEUs
(Advanced level) 13.0 contact hours

Seminar 800 am - 400 pm both days
Check In 725 am - 745 am day one

NICU SWALLOWING/FEEDING: *In the Nursery and After Discharge*

Instructor: Catherine Shaker

Cutting-edge 2-days with an expert in the NICU. Essential evidence-based information for managing the complex swallowing and feeding needs of preterm and sick term infants in the NICU and in Early Intervention. Functional problem-solving approach to assessment and treatment, including a broad range of interventions and how-to problem-solve. Hear the latest research and how it applies. Case studies and videos of neonates feeding enhance learning. Gain confidence with the babies you are seeing in EI and with supporting parents. Attendees have said this is "The best NICU course you can find!" and "Now I know how to help my babies in EI!" Leave with evidence-based resources for future learning.

Learning Outcomes

- Describe the impact of medical and developmental issues on swallowing and feeding in the NICU
- Delineate the differences between feeding and swallowing behaviors: preterm infant vs. normal newborn vs. sick term infant vs. the chronically ill preemie
- Discuss assessment and treatment strategies for swallowing and feeding in this specialized population
- List strategies for managing the complex needs of these infants and their families in the nursery and through the transition to home and community

Seminar Content

- The NICU Experience: Family Perspective
- Medical and Developmental issues: NICU and EI
- Term vs. Sick Newborn vs. Premie vs. Chronically Ill Preterm: issues and cue-based strategies
- Typical development/progression to feeding
- Assessment: Making sense of history, where to start, Readiness to feed, Safety issues, Swallow Studies, Recommendations, Documentation
- Intervention: Positioning, Nipples, Flow Rate, Swallowing, Suck-Swallow-Breathe, Care Plans, Breastfeeding, working with your team in NICU and EI
- Unique Follow-Up Issues, Optimizing Parent Support, Problem-solving on-going issues after discharge
- Networking with colleagues in NICU and EI

This course is offered for 1.35 ASHA CEUs
(Intermediate level) 13.5 contact hours

Seminar 800 am - 400 pm both days
Check In 725 am - 745 am day one

PEDIATRIC SWALLOWING AND FEEDING: *The Essentials*

Instructors: Catherine Shaker, Theresa Gager

Comprehensive 2-days covering assessment and treatment of swallowing/oral-motor/feeding from a problem-solving perspective. Neonates through school age. Current approaches, case studies. Videos to enhance learning. Essential skills for pediatric practice and problem-solving complex cases. Perfect for adult therapists moving to pediatrics. Multiple learning levels for both highly experienced therapists and new grads! This will change your practice.

Learning Outcomes

- Delineate normal swallowing (neonate -> adulthood)
- Describe the impact of atypical neuromotor development on oral motor/feeding/swallowing
- Describe current treatment strategies for neonates, medically fragile infants, babies, CP, sensory issues, feeding aversions, droolers, tube fed, oral-motor, biting/chewing
- Describe airway, breathing and flow rate issues that impact safety of feeding and intake
- Identify key criteria for nipples, bottles, spoons, cups.
- Describe a wide variety of intervention and problem-solving techniques, neonate->school-aged
- List key indicators to refer for a swallow study, what to expect, how to utilize information

Seminar Content

- Frame of reference: normal, atypical development
- Impacts on feeding/swallowing: airway, respiration, GI, sensory, behavior, postural issues
- How does the swallow change: impact on therapy
- Assessment: problem-solving babies to school-aged
- Swallow Studies: Why, what to expect, results
- Intervention and Problem-Solving
 - Positioning/Handling
 - Tactile sensory, preparation for oral exploration, feeding and sound production, Oral-Motor
 - Current modalities: applications in pediatrics
 - Diet and texture, biting and chewing progression
 - Nipples, bottles, cups, spoons: what and why
 - Sensory-behavioral feeding issues, approaches
 - Tube-fed kids: why, how, weaning to PO
 - Premies: key diagnostics and strategies

This course is offered for 1.3 ASHA CEUs
(Intermediate level) 13.0 contact hours

Seminar 800 am - 400 pm both days
Check In 725 am - 745 am day one

PEDIATRIC VIDEOFLUOROSCOPIC SWALLOW STUDIES: From Physiology to Analysis

Instructor: Catherine Shaker

Evolution of physiology from infancy forward. Critical information for conducting and interpreting pediatric swallow studies and problem-solving at each juncture. Learn how to look beyond aspiration and appreciate the entire swallow pathway and its potential for compensations and maladaptations in relation to comorbidities. Procedures in preparation for and during the study that are most common across the US. Recommendations and optional treatment modalities specific to pediatrics will be highlighted. A pediatric history and report format provided to enhance learning. Videos of normal swallowing and typical radiographic swallowing problems will be shown. Case scenarios, and real-life examples discussed. Leave with a new appreciation for the essential current perspectives and the importance of problem-solving each infant/child and his unique presentation. Learn strategies to enhance MD understanding, buy-in and support from a clinician "in the trenches". Looking at the evidence-base, the big picture for that infant/child, and use of critical reflective thinking, not a cookbook approach.

Learning Outcomes

- Describe normal radiographic swallowing behaviors in pediatrics (neonate -> 5 years)
- Delineate differences between pediatric and adult studies
- Describe optimal procedures for pediatric patients
- Describe typical problems and compensations used in pediatrics
- Discuss recommendations and highlight treatment modalities specific to the pediatric population

Seminar Content

- Pediatric vs. Adult studies
- Criteria for referral & readiness for swallow study
- Preparing the family
- Normal swallowing physiology: Birth to Adulthood
- Protocol/Positioning/Textures
- Typical problems/Modifications, Strategies
- Analysis, Recommendations/Treatment Modalities

This course is offered for .65 ASHA CEUs
(Intermediate level) 6.5 contact hours

Seminar 800 am - 400 pm
Check in 725 am - 745am

Attendee Feedback.....

*Dynamic speakers. Easy to follow, down-to-earth presenters with a wealth of knowledge, even for experienced co-workers. So much learning that's not available in online CEUs. **Emily, SLP***

*I learned more in two hours than I did in four days at a different conference. **Emma, SLP***

*I loved that the Advanced course focused on a variety of diagnoses that are relevant to various settings (acute, outpatient, early intervention) and helped me use my critical thinking skills to problem solve my patients. **Alyssa, OTR***

*I learned so much about the biomechanics of the pediatric swallow that now can inform my treatment. **Leana, SLP***

*I will never look at feeding babies the same way again! Thank you for your lifelong time, energy and passion dedicated to therapeutic intervention in the NICU. You have paved the way for many of us and it is greatly appreciated! **Micha, OTR***

*So many things I appreciated in the Advanced course! Picture examples, the variety of diagnoses covered, planned times for questions, case discussions, anecdotal stories to help with understanding, and so much foundational research for each topic. **Maggie, SLP***

*I take a lot of CE courses, and I would rate this as one of the best. Catherine and Theresa's knowledge base and how they presented the material has increased my confidence and skill! **Laura, SLP***

*Catherine is a treasure chest of knowledge, but still shows so much humility and inclusiveness, always embracing and encouraging participant input. Going through the case studies was such a valuable learning tool. Really helped to synthesize many areas of the PFD puzzle! **Colleen, OTR***

*It's nice to know that even experienced therapists don't have all the answers and need to problem solve and dialogue with others. I liked Catherine's discussion "system-based thinking" when trying to differentially diagnose the reason why something might be happening. I loved the increased confidence this course gave me! It filled in lots of gaps. **Violet, SLP***

*I truly appreciate you sharing your years of knowledge, understanding and experience with us. I loved how you taught in a passionate, calm and humble manner. You have encouraged me to continue to "wonder" and have intellectual curiosity so I can be a lifelong learner like you. Thank you so much. **Michi, SLP***

*What a great course on pediatric swallow studies. Now I will think about physiology, not just aspiration and penetration!! Yeah! **Samantha, SLP***

*Thorough, engaging and practical courses, immediately relevant. **Michelle, SLP***

*The breadth of material/subtopics covered was amazing. My families and co-workers now have a more competent clinician working with and advocating for them. The course was highly informational. **Colleen, SLP***

*The course was well organized. Presenters As an SLP, I would highly recommend this course to my OT and PT colleagues. **Sara, SLP***



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REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- **Fee includes** seminar, handout materials and a certificate of completion; attendance and learning assessment completion required for CEUs.
- Notify us via email of any special learning needs. Will do our best to accommodate.
- **If registering < 5 days prior to course:** verify space is available via email to: pediatricseminars@gmail.com

How to register:

- **Online with a credit card at** www.Shaker4SwallowingandFeeding.com. We accept major credit cards.
- **Mail in** registration: must be postmarked 2 weeks prior to course. Complete the registration form and submit along with personal or corporate check to:
Pediatric Resources Inc.
PO Box 9
Flagler Beach, FL 32136

Cancellation:

- 7 days prior to the seminar start date: Tuition will be refunded - *less credit card fees*. Credit card fees are non-refundable.
- Less than 7 days prior to the seminar start date: Tuition may be applied to a future seminar, or a substitute attendee allowed.

Liability: **Pediatric Resources Inc.** reserves the right to cancel the event 21 days prior to the seminar date with a full refund of tuition and credit card fees; we are not responsible for travel/other expenses incurred.

The speakers, organizers, and hosts assume no liability for any adverse events, loss of property or injury that may occur during the seminar or traveling to/from the seminar.

Disclosures: Ms. Shaker and Ms. Gager have no relevant Financial/Non-Financial disclosures.

REGISTRATION FORM

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Country _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Discipline _____

Required for SPEECH PATHOLOGISTS:

I wish to earn ASHA CEUs: Yes No

**By checking "Yes", I give permission to send my information to ASHA CE

ASHA ID # _____

I have read the cancellation and liability policies and agree.

For further information contact:

Pediatric Resources Inc.
P O Box 9
Flagler Beach, FL 32136
(206) 949-7630 pediatricseminars@gmail.com

SEMINAR PRICES

Adv Infant/Pediatric Dysphagia	\$ 495
NICU Swallowing and Feeding	\$ 475
Pediatric Swallowing and Feeding	\$ 475
Pediatric Videoswallow Studies	\$ 345

SELECT YOUR 2026 LOCATIONS AND DATES

Long Beach CA

- June 25-26 Ped Swallowing and Feeding
- June 27-28 Advanced Inf/Ped Dysphagia
- June 29-30 NICU Swallowing and Feeding

San Antonio TX

- July 29-30 Ped Swallowing and Feeding
- July 31 Pediatric Videoswallow Studies
- Aug 1-2 Advanced Inf/Ped Dysphagia

Fremont CA

- Sept 25-26 Ped Swallowing and Feeding
- Sept 27-28 Advanced Inf/Ped Dysphagia
- Sept 29-30 NICU Swallowing and Feeding

Dallas TX

- Oct 12-13 Advanced Infant/Ped Dysphagia
- Oct 14 Pediatric Videoswallow Studies
- Oct 15-16 NICU Swallowing and Feeding



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