



Bridging the Gap

The newsletter of

Regional and Statewide Services for Students with Orthopedic Impairments

September • 2004

Last spring, I had the pleasure of visiting Oregon classrooms and talking with teachers of students with significant orthopedic, health and learning disabilities. When I asked a teacher what one thing RSOI could provide that would help her in her work, she replied, "Curriculum". Her answer summed up in a single word a need repeatedly expressed to me by others around the state. While Oregon has an excellent assessment system in place for students on a functional skills track, teachers need support for the next step: developing and implementing individualized evidence-based curriculum for their students.

DEVELOPING CURRICULUM WORKSHOP SERIES

In response, to the teacher's need for curriculum, we are pleased to announce that this fall, RSOI will be hosting three, one-day regional workshops for teachers, titled, "Developing Curriculum for Teaching Within Routines", and presented by Dr. Joel Arik and Tera Hoffman from Portland State University, co-authors of the Extended CLRAS (Career and Life Role Assessment System). Building on the CLRAS, they have developed an integrated curriculum and assessment program on how to use essential skills within functional routines to develop curriculum. Each participant will receive the new book, "FACTER: Functional Assessment and Curriculum for Teaching Everyday Routines". Each initial workshop will be followed by a 1 1/2 hour video teleconference consultation with participants, and a listserv will be established to enable ongoing discussion and consultation between workshop participants and the presenters.

The workshop will be presented at the Multnomah ESD in Portland, the High Desert ESD in Redmond, and at Southern Oregon ESD in Medford. Each workshop is limited to 25 participants at each location and advance registration is required. Look for registration materials enclosed in this newsletter.

VIEW from the BRIDGE

— Diana Roberts

December 6 & 7, in Wilsonville. We're excited to have Nancy Sinden, SLP, from CDRC in Portland, as keynote speaker this year. Nancy is a top-notch presenter and her session last year received an overwhelming response from all who attended. We've invited Nancy to take us, "Back to the Future: Revisiting the Feeding Process for a Wholistic Understanding of the Child in the 21st Century". Nancy will discuss the underlying foundations of feeding and feeding disorders, take us through assessment and intervention, and then explore quality of life issues, parent rights and professional ethics, and finally communication between educational and medical settings. On Tuesday morning, Nancy will again lead the whole group in a problem-solving session using case studies of children who represent particularly challenging feeding situations. Tuesday afternoon we will split into two strands, with a panel discussion for the Experienced strand, and a session on Team Process for the Novice strand. Registration materials are enclosed.

We're looking forward seeing you at these events and to another year of working and growing together with you!

MEDLINE FREE TO OREGON HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

The Library at the Oregon Health Sciences Center offers free Medline searches for Oregon health professionals. Medline is a search engine used by medical professionals for searching medical and health-related journals online. Fill out the simple online registration form at www.ohsu.edu/library/ovid/. (Thanks to Bruce Alter, PT, Willamette ESD Regional Program, for bringing this to our attention!)

In this issue...

- Registration form for the 9th Annual SEMINAR for FEEDING TEAMS
- Registration materials to attend Developing Curriculum for Teaching Within Routines Workshop Series.

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The strategies Exchange



Ever need a hands-free system for getting water or other liquids to kids with hydration needs? A trip to REI or other sports suppliers is the perfect place to find supplies for "Hydration Systems" which are usually used for bikers and hikers. There are all kinds of "camel back" packs which can be mounted on board a wheelchair. They can be a bit pricey though, at about \$65. For a more affordable option, you can use replacement parts designed for these packs combined with a simple water bottle with an adapted cap which fits the tubing snugly. Don't forget to punch a very small hole in the cap in order to break the vacuum. The Nalgene company makes a valving system called, (really!) "Bite Me". The mouth piece and tubing are all latex free. The Nalgene Company, which has a medical subsidiary, is well aware of latex sensitivities and has gone out of their way to make sure latex is not in any part of this product or most of their other

products. Cost is about \$12. The web address is below: www.nalgene-outdoor.com/store/category.asp?category=2003+NALGENE+Hydration. Click on "Hydration Accessories".



Photos are used with permission

The student in this photo bit through most other valving systems, causing them to fail. Because of this, the "Bite Me" system with relatively affordable valve cover replacements (\$2.00 each) was the ideal solution, allowing independent drinking for the student. There are different systems supplied by various manufacturers which are useful for other special oral motor needs. It's important to research each product for latex

content before using them with children with disabilities. (Thanks to Mary Petrilla, OT, Douglas ESD, Roseburg. Call Mary at 541- 957-4803 if you have questions.)



TIES

CALL FOR PRESENTERS

Have you been thinking about presenting a session at this year's "TIES: Therapy in Educational Settings" Conference? It's not too early to let us know! TIES is scheduled for April 18 & 19, 2005, at the Valley River Inn. Breakout sessions are held on Tuesday, with 1-1/2 hour sessions in the morning and one hour sessions in the afternoon. Though the presenter proposal forms haven't yet been posted, we invite you to contact Diana Roberts to let her know if you'd like to present or if you just want to discuss your idea for a session. Call her at 541-957-4834, or email diana.roberts@douglasesd.k12.or.us.

NEW IN THE RSOI LIBRARY

RESOURCES ON ADAPTED PE AND FEEDING

ITEM # DESCRIPTION

438 *School Function Assessment*. (Co-authored by Dr. Stephen Haley-TIES 2004 Keynote Presenter). Coster, Deeney, Haltiwanger & Haley, 1998.

ADAPTED PE

516 *Adapted Physical Education and Sport, Third Edition*. Joseph P. Winnick, ed, 2000.

517 *A Teacher's Guide to Including Students with Disabilities in General Physical Education, Second Edition*. Martin E. Block, 2000

518 *Inclusive Games: Movement Fun for Everyone!* Susan L. Kasser, 1995.

519 *Strategies for Inclusion: A Handbook for Physical Educators*. L. Lieberman & C.Houston-Wilson, 2002.

FEEDING

520 *Pediatric Videofluoroscopic Swallow Studies: A Professional Manual*. Arvedson & Lefton-Grief, 1998.

VIDEOTAPES

530 *Oral-Motor Assessment for Pediatric Feeding Disorders*. Mary Meek

531 *Treating Oral-Motor Problems in Children*. Mary Meek

Feeding and Swallowing Series (Set of 7): Munroe-Meyer Institute, 1991

523 *The Impact of Proper Positioning and Handling on Feeding*.

524 *Identifying and Managing Oral Hypersensitivity*.

525 *Using Behavioral Approaches to Feeding Your Child*.

526 *Direct Therapy Strategies for Feeding and Swallowing Problems*.

527 *Indirect Management Strategies for Feeding and Swallowing Problems*.

528 *The Development of Early Skills*.

529 *The Identification of Medically Related Issues*.

TRAMPOLINES

AND SCHOOL INSURANCE

In 1996 a federal law was passed prohibiting the use of trampolines in schools. As a result, schools stopped using large trampolines in PE classes. Recently a student in an Oregon ESD program received a minor injury while using a mini-trampoline or "jogger." The ESD discovered that their insurance had a general exclusion for all trampolines based on the 1996 law, and did not cover the use of trampolines in school programs. Based on the insurance exclusion, that ESD has removed all mini-trampolines from use in their programs.

One Oregon ESD found that their insurance excluded only the use of trampolines greater than six feet in diameter. This ESD decided to continue to use mini-trampolines as long as they are used only for specific students, and as long as classroom staff are trained by ESD staff in use and safety precautions, based on a written protocol. The equipment is stored away from independent access by students when it is not in use. Given those conditions, the ESD's insurance will cover equipment and staff in the event of any injuries incurred due to negligence or misuse of the equipment.

We would like to advise all educational programs to check with your district insurance carriers to ensure that use of trampolines is covered before using trampolines of any size with students.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- DIANA ROBERTS

Question: When is it permissible for a school-based therapist to provide a health-related service or device for a child in an educational program?

Response: This question arises time and again in various forms as therapists confront the issues of limited coverage for health services, coupled with the increasing challenge of access to services. How do school health service providers and IEP teams determine whether it is appropriate to provide, for example, a hand-splint? If it is all right to provide a splint, why not provide orthotics? When a therapist has the background and expertise to fabricate a device, why not utilize that expertise, thus saving the family the time and expense of traveling to a community-based provider?

These questions are best considered by first asking, "Is the service or device educationally relevant for the child?" Ask yourself, "Does the device relate to an educational goal?" Learning goals and objectives should first be in place before deciding what related services are needed to support the child's learning. For example, making an adaptive hand-splint to assist with pencil grasp is directly related to the child's handwriting goals, and is therefore educationally relevant for that child.

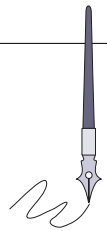
The second measure of appropriateness is, "Is the related service educationally necessary?" To establish whether a service is educationally necessary, the team should consider whether the absence of the proposed service will interfere with the student's access to or participation in his

or her educational program. If the child cannot access their educational program without the service, there is a good chance that it is educationally necessary.

If the service does not meet the above guides for educational appropriateness and necessity, it does not necessarily mean that the service is not important. It may be that the service is simply not the responsibility of the school program. In some cases, the proposed service is actually a medical treatment. The job of the school therapist is to ensure access to the educational program, ensure safety, assess needs and help teach new motor skills. It is very appropriate for the school therapist to check a student's orthotics, casts or other equipment at school to monitor fit and safety. The therapist can and should communicate with community health providers about medical treatment the child is receiving and its impact on the child's education. Therapists routinely consult with wheelchair vendors about style, size, fit and appropriateness, and train students and others in wheelchair use at school.

There is no single formula for determining appropriate type or amount of educational services and by whom they should be provided. It is up to the therapist and the IEP team to determine what services are appropriately provided for each individual child.

Questions for "FAQ" may be sent to Diana at RSOI.



VISIT THE RSOI WEBSITE AT WWW.RSOI.ORG

RSOI's website has many new resources. Use it to directly access registration materials for upcoming events like the Seminar for Feeding Teams. The site also includes a searchable database and loan agreement form for the statewide OI Lending Library, links to related sites such as our sister program, OTAP (the Oregon Technology Access Program), and more. At this time of year, we receive many requests for the materials published by our office. While we love hearing from you and knowing that you're using these materials with your new staff members, please note that all documents are available on the website as printable pdf's. A list is below:

Manuals

- "Physical and Occupational Therapy in Educational Settings"
- "Feeding Students in Educational Programs: Guidelines and Information on Safe Mealtime Practices for Special Students"
- "Adapted Physical Education: The Role of Physical and Occupational Therapists in PE for Students with Disabilities"

Documents

- "Scope of School Services"
- "Performance Standards for school-based OTs"
- "Performance Standards for school-based PTs"
- "Service Needs Checklist, School-Aged"
- "Service Needs Checklist EI/ECSE"
- "Documenting Services on the IEP: A Guide for Related Service Providers "
- "Aspects of Role Release in the Provision of Services to Young Children "
- "Aspects of Role Sharing and Role Release "
- "Update on Medicaid Billing Codes "
- "Medicaid Reimbursement Discussion with Linda Williams "

Pamphlets:

- "A Parent's Guide to PT and OT In Educational Settings"
- "A Parent's Guide to PT and OT In Educational Settings" (Spanish language version)

Newsletters:

- Archived Past Issues of "Bridging the Gap"

Coming Events

Fall 2004

2ND ANNUAL PACIFIC NORTHWEST BRAIN INJURY CONFERENCE: "MOOD, SLEEP AND BEHAVIOR DISORDERS AFTER BRAIN INJURY" • October 1 & 2, 2004 *Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel, Portland, OR*. The fee for the 2-day conference \$275 for non-members. Registration by September 15. For information and online registration see www.sherrystock.com/conf2004/index.htm.

BAL-A-VIS-X LEVELS 1 & 2 • October 15-17, 2004 • *Ontario, OR*. Bill Hubert, instructor. The course is beneficial for OT, PT, special education and regular classroom teachers, PE teachers and coaches. The cost is \$225 for both levels. For information about Bal-a-vis-x see www.bal-a-vis-x.com. Contact Jean Lindley Oakes, PT at 541-889-8336 for more information about the class.

22ND ANNUAL CLOSING THE GAP CONFERENCE
Conference Dates: October 21-23, 2004. Preconference Workshops: October 19-20, 2004 • *Minneapolis, Minnesota*. Closing the Gap Conference is one of the nation's largest and oldest conferences on technology in special education and rehabilitation. The vendor display area is enormous! Complete conference and registration details available at: www.closingthegap.com/conf/index2.html.

DEVELOPING CURRICULUM FOR TEACHING WITHIN ROUTINES

• 3 different dates and locations in Oregon:
• October 29 - *Multnomah ESD, Portland, OR*
• November 5 - *High Desert ESD, Redmond, OR*
• November 19 - *Southern Oregon ESD, Medford, OR*
An interactive workshop presented by Dr. Joel Arick and Tera Hoffman, PSU. They will focus on assessment results from the Extended CLRAS. Registration materials included in this newsletter and at www.RSOI.org.

UCP FAMILY CONFERENCE ON CEREBRAL PALSY AND RELATED DISABILITIES, "Putting the Pieces Together: Practical Strategies and Sound Alternatives" • November 5 & 6, 2004 • *Holiday Inn, Wilsonville*. For more information call 503-777-4166 or 800-473-4581, or contact htolliver@ucpaorwa.org for more information.

SEMINAR FOR FEEDING TEAMS • December 6 & 7, 2004 • *Holiday Inn, Wilsonville*. Featured Speaker: Nancy Sinden, SLP, OHSU/CDRC, "**Back to the Future: Revisiting the Feeding Process for a Wholistic Understanding of the Child in the 21st Century**". Registration materials included in this newsletter and available at www.RSOI.org.

ACCESS NOW CONFERENCE: Technology for People with Special Needs • February 7 & 8, 2005 • *Holiday Inn, Wilsonville*. Keynote Speaker: Skip Stahl, MS, Director, CAST Universal Learning Center, "**Reaching and Teaching Every Student: Universal Design for Learning**". Registration materials available December 1.

TIES CONFERENCE: THERAPY IN EDUCATIONAL SETTINGS • April 18 & 19, 2005 • *Valley River Inn, Eugene*. Keynote Speaker: Teri Brogdon, University of Colorado Health Science Center, "**Project Participate**". Registration Materials available February 1.