Orofacial Myofunctional Therapy
Applications for Children and Adults: A Hands-on Course

Three Day Course: July 18th-20th, 2019

Presented by:
Esther Mandelbaum Gonçalves Bianchini, SLP, PhD

Main Topics:

- Evaluation and therapy procedures for mouth breathers, orofacial muscle imbalance, atypical or deviate chewing and swallowing
- Orofacial Myofunctional therapy after frenectomy: when is it necessary and what can we do
- Exercises and functional patterns practice – hands on strategies
- Orofacial Myofunctional therapy for Obstructive Sleep Apnea as an isolated or associated treatment from children to adults

When: July 18th-20th, 2019
Where: 563 Main St, Bolton, MA 01740
Cost: Dentists $1,800
     Pt-SPS-DO-DCs. $1,200
Deadline: June 15th, 2019
How to register: Use the online registration link. Call or email for assistance with registration.

Space is limited to 20 attendees

SAVE with Early Bird Registration by April 30th
$1,400 for dentists
$1,000 for PTs-SLPs-RDHs-DO

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About our Presenter:

Dr. Esther Mandelbaum Gonçalves Bianchini, Speech and Language Pathologist (SLP), Specialist in Orofacial Motricity (Orofacial Myofunctional Therapy – CFFa 019/96); Master’s in Communication Disorders (PUC-SP), received her Ph.D. in Science, Experimental Physiopathology at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of São Paulo (FMUSP). Currently, she is a permanent professor at the Post Graduation Program in SLP at the Pontificia Universidade Católica de São Paulo (PUC-SP). She has authored many scientific articles, books, and book chapters. Nowadays she is the Coordinator of the SLP Commission of the Brazilian Sleep Society (ABSono) and directs a SLP Rehabilitation Clinic in São Paulo, Brazil. Her major interest is diagnosis and rehabilitation procedures regarding swallowing disturbances, temporomandibular disorders, dentofacial deformities, orthognathic surgery, and sleep-disorders breathing.

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Affiliations:

Sociedade Brasileira de Fonoaudiologia – SBFa (Brazilian SLP Society)
Associação Brasileira de Motricidade Orofacial – ABRAMO (Brazilian Association of Orofacial Myofunctional Disorders)
Associação Brasileira do Sono – ABSono (Brazilian Sleep Society)
World Sleep Society
International Pediatric Sleep Association

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The possible relationship between breathing and swallowing disturbances, orthodontic treatment; dentofacial deformities and obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) is frequently subject of discussion between clinicians and issue of different studies in the last decades. Orofacial functions such as speech, chewing and deglutition are directly associated to the oral spaces and muscles balance, providing conditions for the correct tongue position, mobility and coordination of the soft tissues, specially related to the oral muscles.

Mouth breathing may lead to many orofacial changes such as lowered position of the mandible, anterior and inferior position of the tongue, raised position of the head, low posture of the hyoid bone, chewing modifications, swallowing and speech disturbances. On the other hand, nose breathing associated with the normal functions of chewing, swallowing and correct tongue and lips postures provide correct muscular action stimulating adequate facial growth and bone development in children.

However, unfavorable conditions are frequent. Airway obstruction and many others mouth breathing risk factors are common in children and even in adults. These issues must be correctly diagnosed, and treatment strategies need to be planned sometimes involving medicines, orthodontics or surgical procedures to restore the airway. In all cases, the studies published about myofunctional therapy suggest the importance of the soft tissue rehabilitation, regarding to muscular hyperfunction, harmful oral habits, or to muscular hypofunction and myofunctional orofacial imbalance.

The basis of the Myofunctional Therapy is defined from a complete clinical and instrumental evaluation to provide a correct orofacial myofunctional analysis, in which the symptoms and signs of the functional disorders can be identified, as well as the associated muscular changes. The aforesaid analysis aims to guide the correct approach for the treatment. Complementary exams, such as images in high resolution and instrumental analysis using surface electromyography and bite force, complete these guidelines. After the complete SLP diagnosis, the interdisciplinary discussion should define the directions and the hierarchy of the treatments.

Specific orofacial myofunctional therapy programs, including oropharyngeal exercises, as well as functional training therapy may be an effective treatment option for these patients. The OMT acts on the soft tissues and facilitates the results obtained with the orthodontics procedures, organizes the oropharyngeal movements, the orofacial musculature and leads to functional rehabilitation.

The purpose of this course is to present, to explain and to train the most frequent OMT procedures. Clinical cases will be presented to illustrate the therapy procedures. As a “hands on course” the procedures will also be demonstrated in a voluntary participant (attendee) and the participants will practice the procedures on each others, under supervision and guidance.

Key words: Orofacial Myofunctional Therapy; Mouth breathing; Swallowing disorders; Diagnosis; Rehabilitation procedures; Speech Language and Hearing Science