

Sensory Systems: The Effect on Postural Control

Understanding and Incorporating Sensory Strategies in NDT Treatment

Client function and participation can be severely impaired when the sensory systems are not functioning optimally. Children that have neuropsychiatric or neuromuscular impairment may have postural control issues that are compounded by sensory system dysfunction.

This basic to intermediate level course using the NDT problem-solving approach will contain lecture, treatment videos and live demonstration treatment to illustrate potential presentation, and subsequent treatment strategies for sensory system dysfunction. This course is for OT's, PT's, SLP's and their assistants that work with children that have delayed development or neuromuscular system impairment.

Participants will improve their clinical decision-making skills by analyzing the complex inter-relationship of function, multi-system behaviors, and single system integrities when working with children who have posture and movement dysfunction.

The importance of understanding the role of the cerebellum, the sensory systems and postural control will be emphasized. The details of blending of the sensory systems and NDT handling strategies will be emphasized. Various video examples and discussion will be utilized to integrate this information.

Learning objectives:

1. Identify the significant role(s) of the Cerebellum for analysis of treatment.
2. Identify and describe sensory system contributions to the posture and movement systems.
3. Describe 3 specific treatment strategies that address the visual, vestibular and somatosensory systems simultaneously.
4. Identify the difference between ocular motor impairment and CVI.
5. Identify 3 specific treatment strategies: vision, vestibular, somatosensory (Some familiarity with NDT handling is helpful)