

## The Alabama Dysphagia Collective Presents



# The 2022 Inaugural *Alabama Dysphagia Conference*

---

### 2022 Conference Topics Include:

Adult and Pediatric Dysphagia Evaluation and Treatment,  
Ethical Decision Making,  
Clinical Supervision in Dysphagia Management  
and Optional FEES Experience/Training

Friday, June 3, 2022  
Saturday, June 4, 2022  
*Optional Third Day*  
Sunday, June 5, 2022  
**University of South Alabama**  
**Mobile, Alabama**

Friday, September 30, 2022  
Saturday, October 1, 2022  
*Optional Third Day*  
Sunday, October 2, 2022  
**University of Alabama**  
**Tuscaloosa, Alabama**



## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This conference will review foundational concepts in applied anatomy and physiology for the assessment and treatment of dysphagia across the lifespan. Specifically, the conference will highlight current best available evidence to support commonly used evaluation methods, including bedside and instrumental assessments. Participants will also learn theoretical foundations of various treatment methods and how to apply when developing individualized dysphagia treatment plans. Further, the conference will discuss ethical and supervisory considerations in dysphagia management. Portions of the conference will include hands-on experience for audience members.

## TARGET AUDIENCE

Speech-Language Pathologists, Speech-Language Pathology Assistants, and Occupational Therapists working with patients who have dysphagia.

## CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to

1. Identify anatomical structures necessary for functional swallowing.
2. Describe physiology of functional swallowing across the lifespan.
3. List one dysphagia screening option for children and adults.
4. List the components of an evidence based clinical (bedside) swallow examination.
5. Compare and contrast VFSS and FEES instrumental examinations for the assessment of dysphagia.
6. Describe three principles of motor learning applicable to dysphagia management.
7. Explain three evidence-based treatments for dysphagia.
8. Identify two strategies for providing effective feedback to trainees in the area of dysphagia.

## SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

**Dr. Kendrea Garand, PhD, CScD, CCC-SLP, BCS-S, CBIS (Conference Co-Director)** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology at the University of South Alabama, where she teaches in the classroom and clinical settings. She is also the Program Coordinator for the doctoral (PhD) program in communication sciences and disorders. She earned her Doctorate of Clinical Science in Medical Speech-Language Pathology from the University of Pittsburgh and her PhD in Health and Rehabilitation Science from the Medical University of South Carolina. Her clinical and research expertise is in dysphagia assessment and management in patients with neurodegenerative disease, particularly amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). Her previous and current funding includes Veterans Affairs, ASHFoundation, and the University of South Alabama. Her work in adult dysphagia has been published in peer-reviewed manuscripts, and she presents nationally and internationally. She is Vice Chair of the American Board of Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders, and Editor of ASHA Perspectives of the Special Interest Groups (SIG 13). She is Board Certified in Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders (BCS-S), as well as a Certified Brain Injury Specialist (CBIS).

**Dr. Memorie M. Gosa, PhD, CCC-SLP, (Conference Co-Director)** is a pediatric speech pathologist and board certified specialist in swallowing and swallowing disorders. She has worked with infants and children with feeding and swallowing difficulties for 20 years. She is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Communicative Disorders at The University of Alabama. Dr. Gosa has published peer-reviewed manuscripts, book chapters, and a recent edited textbook on the topic of identification and management of dysphagia across the lifespan. She presents nationally and internationally on the topic of pediatric dysphagia diagnosis and management.



## *Alabama Dysphagia Conference*

**Dr. Debra Suiter, PhD, CCC-SLP**, is the Director of the Voice and Swallow Clinic and Associate Professor in the Division of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Suiter is a Board Certified Specialist in Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders. Dr. Suiter has presented on the topics of swallowing and swallowing disorders at local, national and international conferences. In addition to peer-reviewed publications, she is co-author of The Yale Swallow Protocol that she and Dr. Steven Leder from Yale University School of Medicine developed, and co-editor for a recently published textbook entitled Assessing and Treating Dysphagia: A Lifespan Perspective. Dr. Suiter is a Fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. Currently, she serves on the Council for Clinical Certification in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology. She previously served on the Boards of the American Board for Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders and the Dysphagia Research Society. She is an Associate Editor for the journal *Dysphagia* and for the *American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*.

**Dr. Neina Ferguson, PhD, CCC-SLP**, earned a Bachelor's Degree in psychology with a minor in child welfare from the University of West Florida. Dr. Ferguson received her Master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology from Old Dominion University and practiced as a medical speech language pathologist providing feeding and swallowing rehabilitation across the life span. Dr. Ferguson specializes in treating infants born prematurely, infants with feeding tubes, and individuals who are tracheostomized and ventilator dependent. After 13 years of clinical practice, she received her Ph.D. from the University of South Alabama. Until recently she was an assistant professor in the Department of Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology at East Tennessee State University. In 2016, she was selected as a Fellow of Darden's College of Education at Old Dominion University. Dr. Ferguson is recognized for her excellence in research and clinical service in pediatric swallowing disorders. She is passionate about helping infants and young children move safely from tube feeding toward oral feeding with careful evidence-based intervention. Dr. Ferguson previously served as the Editor of *Perspectives in Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders*, a continuing education journal of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

**Mrs. Grayson Hill, MS, CCC-SLP, (Conference Coordinator)** is a speech-language pathologist with over 25 years of clinical experience in acute and long-term rehabilitation hospitals, outpatient clinics, skilled nursing facilities, home-based services, and private practice with adults and children. Since 2014, she has served as full-time clinical faculty at the University of South Alabama, teaching both undergraduate and graduate students in the classroom and in clinical practicum experiences. Her current clinical practice is at the University of South Alabama Speech and Hearing Clinic serving adult and pediatric clients with feeding/swallowing disorders, voice disorders, oral function disorders, as well as speech and language disorders. She is an advocate in the special needs community, providing inservice education for parents and para-professionals across the region. She has served as a consultant to many professional practices in the Mobile area and across the state of Alabama.

**Mr. Brent Wiles, MS, CCC-SLP**, is a clinical instructor in the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology at the University of South Alabama. He educates undergraduate and graduate students in the assessment and treatment of both adult and pediatric clients in the classroom and through direct clinical instruction in the USA Speech and Hearing Center's outpatient clinic. His current clinical practice focuses on adult and pediatric speech and language disorders as well as adult dysphagia. Mr. Wiles completed his Bachelor of Arts in Psychology in 2004 and his Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology in 2012, both at the University of South Alabama. Before joining the faculty at South Alabama in 2018, he worked in adult inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation addressing the needs of clients with speech, language, voice, and swallowing disorders. He has also worked with specialty populations, including trach/vent, medically fragile geriatrics, and memory care.



**PROGRAM AGENDA**

**Friday:**

- 7:30 – 8:20 a.m.**      **Registration and light continental breakfast**  
**8:20 – 8:30 a.m.**      **Opening remarks and housekeeping items**  
*Dr. Elizabeth Adams, Chair, Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology, University of South Alabama*  
*Dr. Memorie Gosa, Chair, Department of Communicative Disorders, The University of Alabama*
- 8:30 – 9:45 a.m.**      **Anatomy and Physiology of Functional Swallowing Across the Lifespan**  
*Drs. Neina Ferguson and Kendrea Garand*
- 9:45 – 10:30 a.m.**      **Variability in Normal Swallowing Across the Lifespan**  
*Drs. Memorie Gosa and Kendrea Garand*
- 10:30 – 10:45 a.m.**      **Break**  
**10:45 – 12:00 p.m.**      **Dysphagia Screenings: Infants to Geriatrics**  
*Dr. Debra Suiter*
- 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.**      **Boxed lunch provided**  
 Presentations by Ampcare LLC, Bracco Diagnostics, and TIMS Medical
- 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.**      **Clinical (Bedside) Assessment of Dysphagia: From Cranial Nerves to Food Trials**  
*Dr. Kendrea Garand*
- 2:30 – 2:45 p.m.**      **Break**  
**2:45 – 4:00 p.m.**      **Foundational Concepts of Instrumental Evaluation (FEES and VFSS)**  
*Drs. Memorie Gosa and Debra Suiter*
- 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.**      **Optional clinic tour of the hosting facility (USA and UA)**

**Saturday:**

- 7:30 – 8:20 a.m.**      **Registration and light continental breakfast**  
**8:20 – 8:30 a.m.**      **Housekeeping items and reminders**  
**8:30 – 9:30 a.m.**      **Principles of Neuroplasticity and Foundational Concepts of Skill Training**  
*Dr. Kendrea Garand*
- 9:30 – 10:15 a.m.**      **Attendance at 1 of 4 Breakout sessions**  
**10:15 – 10:30 a.m.**      **Break**  
**10:30 – 11:15 a.m.**      **Attendance at 1 of 4 Breakout sessions**  
**11:15 – 11:20 a.m.**      **Transition to next session**  
**11:20 – 12:05 a.m.**      **Attendance at 1 of 4 Breakout sessions**  
**12:05 – 12:15 p.m.**      **Transition to working lunch**  
**12:15 – 1:15 p.m.**      **Ethical Issues in Dysphagia Management Across the Lifespan (Boxed lunch provided)**  
*Mrs. Grayson Hill and Mr. Brent Wiles*
- 1:15 – 1:25 p.m.**      **Transition to next session**  
**1:25 – 2:10 p.m.**      **Attendance at 1 of 4 Breakout sessions**  
**2:10 – 2:30 p.m.**      **Break**  
**2:30 – 4:30 p.m.**      **Supervision Considerations in Dysphagia Management Across the Lifespan**  
*Mrs. Grayson Hill and Mr. Brent Wiles*

*Breakout Sessions:* Each participant will rotate through the four breakout sessions held in individual, smaller rooms to facilitate small group discussion and hands-on activities. The sessions will run simultaneously and topics include:

1. Dysphagia Treatment Across the Lifespan: Habilitation, Compensation, and Rehabilitation
2. Structured Dysphagia Therapeutic Programs Across the Lifespan
3. Review of Biofeedback in Dysphagia Management Across the Lifespan
4. Review of Behavioral Strategies in the Treatment of Dysphagia Across the Lifespan



## Alabama Dysphagia Conference

### Optional Third Day

Fiberoptic Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing (FEES) Experience (Optional third day training-limited spaces available) In this optional third day, participants will receive didactic training on the administration and interpretation of the fiberoptic endoscopic evaluation of swallowing for the diagnosis and management of dysphagia. The course will also provide skill-based training on the transnasal passage of the flexible endoscope.

#### **Sunday:**

<b>8:30 – 9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Check-in &amp; Opening remarks</b> <i>Drs. Kendrea Garand &amp; Memorie Gosa</i>
<b>9:00 – 10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Anatomy &amp; Physiology for the Administration &amp; Interpretation of FEES</b> <i>Ms. Gina Armstrong</i>
<b>10:30 – 10:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>10:45 – 12:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Technical Aspects of FEES: Get to know the scope &amp; Cleaning Protocols</b> <i>Ms. Gina Armstrong</i>
<b>12:00 – 12:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Lunch Provided</b>
<b>12:30 – 1:45 p.m.</b>	<b>Clinical Skills Practice: Passing the Scope</b> <i>Ms. Gina Armstrong, Drs. Kendrea Garand &amp; Memorie Gosa</i>
<b>1:45 – 2:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>2:00 – 3:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Interpreting FEES</b> <i>Ms. Gina Armstrong</i>

### OPTIONAL THIRD DAY LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of the optional third day, participants will be able to:

1. Identify the necessary anatomy and physiology for the safe administration and accurate interpretation of the FEES exam
2. Demonstrate the appropriate technique for transnasal passage of the endoscope
3. Describe the appropriate cleaning technique for the equipment involved in FEES
4. Interpret clinical findings from a recorded FEES in order to identify physiological swallowing impairments

### OPTIONAL THIRD DAY ADDITIONAL SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Gina Armstrong, M.S., CCC-SLP is a licensed medical speech-language pathologist and FEES Endoscopist with over a decade of clinical experience. Gina has specialized training in the administration and interpretation of FEES. She is the founder of Eastern Shore Swallowing Diagnostics and maintains professional affiliations with ASHA's Special Interest Group 13 (Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders) and the National Foundation of Swallowing Disorders.

### CONFERENCE FEES

\$150.00 *Individual* Conference Registration Fee for Regular 2-day conference

\$125.00 Each for 3 or more registrations from the same facility, registering at the same time for Regular 2-day conference

\$50.00 *Supervisor Rate* for the first 25 clinical supervisors for USA and UA with code at each meeting (we will email all supervisors with the code- the first 25 for each conference to use it to register will receive the discounted rate) for Regular 2-day conference

\$25.00 Each for the optional 3<sup>rd</sup> day

### ASHA Credit

The 2-day regular conference is offered for up to 13.0 ASHA CEUs (Intermediate level)

The optional third day is offered for 5.0 ASHA CEUs (Advance level)

### ASHA Disclosures

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/14yIGF4iLsLw6TBfCyuwqlaCyUq0P-M4X/view?usp=sharing>



**ASHA CE**  
**APPROVED PROVIDER**

Methodist Le  
Bonheur Healthcare

Various Levels  
Up to 1.80 ASHA CEUs

**REGISTRATION OPTIONS: ONLINE OR MAIL**

To pay by credit card or with supervisor code, you must register online. To pay with check or purchase order (PO), you must register by mailing the completed registration form below with payment.

To register online, follow the link below:

June 3-4, Optional third day June 5, 2022, in Mobile, Alabama

September 30 – October 1, Optional third day October 2, 2022, in Tuscaloosa, Alabama

<https://training.ccs.ua.edu/jsp/session.jsp?sessionId=UA00520&courseId=UAHDC&categoryId=10224>

**CANCELLATION POLICY**

If participants must cancel, they will receive a refund minus a 20% cancellation fee with notice given in writing prior to 10 days before the event. Refund is not available for cancellations received within 10 days of the conference for which the participant registered. The University of AL and/or South AL reserve the right to alter, reschedule, or cancel this program should circumstances dictate.

**CONFERENCE SITES**

*June 3-4, 2022*

University of South Alabama  
USA Student Center Ballroom  
350 Campus Drive  
Mobile, AL 36688

*September 30 – October 1, 2022*

University of Alabama  
Bryant Conference Center  
240 Paul Bryant Drive  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487

*June 5, 2022*

University of South Alabama  
Speech and Hearing Center  
5721 USA Drive North  
Mobile, AL 36688

*October 2, 2022*

University of Alabama  
Speech and Hearing Center  
145 Johnny Stallings Blvd  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487

**NEAREST AIRPORT/LODGING**

Mobile Regional Airport (MOB)  
*Holiday Inn Express & Suites – University*  
109 Long Street  
Mobile, AL 36608  
ADC Conference rate \$99/night until 5/13/2022  
Booking code: ADC

Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport (BHM)  
*Hotel Capstone*  
320 Paul Bryant Drive  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401  
ADC Conference rate \$149/night until 8/29/2022

**CONFERENCE SPONSORS**

Sponsored in part through a continuing education grant from ABESPA. ABESPA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of services.





*Alabama Dysphagia Conference*

**REGISTRATION FORM**

- Conference Date/Location:**       June 3-4, 2022, Mobile, AL       June 5, 2022, Mobile, AL  
 Sept 30-Oct 1, 2022 Tuscaloosa, AL       October 2, 2022 Tuscaloosa, AL

Name (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Standard Conference Rate*

\$150.00 Individual Conference Registration Fee for Regular 2-day conference \_\_\_\_\_

\$125.00 Each for 3 or more registrations from the same facility, registering at the same time for Regular 2-day conference

List names of each applicant in group and facility below:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

\$50.00 Supervisor Rate for the first 25 clinical supervisors for USA and UA with code at each meeting for Regular 2-day conference  
 Code: \_\_\_\_\_

\$25.00 Optional 3<sup>rd</sup> day registration \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Conference Fees Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Boxed Lunch Meal Options Included in Conference Registration:**

*Mobile, AL*

1. Traditional Box Lunch will include a selection of ham, chicken or turkey sandwich/wrap with chips, cookie and bottled water (First come, first served)
2. Gluten-sensitive Box Lunch will include a selection of ham or turkey sandwich on gluten-free bread with chips, GF cookie and bottled water (First come, first served).
3. Vegetarian Box Lunch will include a grilled vegetable wrap with chips, cookie and bottled water.

*Tuscaloosa, AL*

1. Traditional Box Lunch will include a selection of ham or turkey sandwich with chips, pickle and cookie (distributed first come first served, participants cannot specify ham or turkey in advance)
2. Gluten-sensitive Box Lunch will include a selection of ham or turkey sandwich on gluten-free bread with chips, pickle and gluten-free cookie, (distributed first come first served, participants cannot specify ham or turkey in advance)
3. Vegetarian Box Lunch will include a spinach veggie wrap with chips, pickle and a cookie.

**Please write number selection (1-3) for Mobile Conference or (1-3) for Tuscaloosa Conference in space below.**

Day One Meal Selection: \_\_\_\_\_ Day Two Meal Selection: \_\_\_\_\_ Optional Day Three Meal Selection \_\_\_\_\_

**If registering by mail, please Mail this form with your Payment to:**

Registration Services  
 Box 870388  
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0388

**Questions?**

Grayson Hill, Conf. Coordinator  
 (251) 445-9366  
 graysonhill@southalabama.edu

\*\*\*Check or purchase order must be made payable to *Registration Services* with indication for *ADC Conference*\*\*\*