

“We Got the Beat for Children with ASD”

Motor Timing and Movement Sequence Interventions to Support Treatment Outcomes in Children with Autism



Course Description:

Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) have difficulty with motor timing and sequential bilateral skills impacting their performance in daily activities and learning new skills. Children with ASD also have difficulty with emotional modulation and self-awareness impacting their social interactions with other peers. This presentation will focus on how the Interactive Metronome (IM) can support both motor function and social/emotional engagement in children with ASD. The presenter will provide research on the current use of the interactive metronome as treatment intervention for ASD, and analyze the evidence to support clinical reasoning. Intervention strategies will be discussed on how therapists can use utilize the IM as both a therapy intensive and how to incorporate within their weekly sessions with video examples and creative ideas to expand the therapist IM “bag of tricks” and help children become modulated, coordinated, and socially engaged to support successful participation in daily activities.

***One contact hour/AOTA CEU is offered pending successful completion of a written exam at the end of the course.**

Target Audience:

This course welcomes the following professionals who have completed the Interactive Metronome Certification Course.

- Occupational Therapist
- Certified Occupational Therapy Asst

Instructional Level:

Introductory

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to:

1. identify the relationship between motor timing and components of motor praxis;
2. explain 2 strategies using rhythm and motor timing neuro-exercises to support motor performance skills;
3. report one study outcome that supports rhythm and motor timing treatment intervention to improve motor coordination and engagement.

***Note: This course covers information that pertains to licensed therapists and therapy assistants. COTA and PTA professionals must practice IM under the supervision of a licensed OT or PT.**

Instructor:

Susan A. Zapf, Ph.D., OTR/L, BCP, ATP: Dr. Susan Zapf is an Occupational Therapist and Assistive Technology Professional with over 27 years of experience working with the pediatric population in both private practice and the school-based settings. She received her undergraduate degree in Recreation, Park, & Leisure Studies from the University of Minnesota and her Master of Occupational Therapy (MOT) and Master of Occupational Therapy/Rehabilitation Technology degrees (MA) from Texas Woman’s University. In April 2012 she graduated from Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions with a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Pediatric Science. Dr. Zapf’s research emphasis is on Assistive Technology assessment and outcome effectiveness. She is Board Certified in Pediatrics through AOTA, certified in the Sensory Integration Praxis Test, and certified through RESNA as an Assistive Technology (AT) Professional. She is the primary author of the MATCH-ACES Assistive Technology Assessment and The Service Animal Adaptive Intervention Assessment. Dr. Zapf has presented throughout the United States and internationally on assistive technology assessment and implementation. She has also presented on sensory strategies in occupational therapy, and animal assisted therapy.

Dr. Zapf is an entrepreneur and is the Owner and Clinical of The Children’s Therapy Center, Inc., a prominent pediatric sensory integration clinic in Houston, Texas. Dr. Zapf is also the Owner and President of Children’s Journey to Shine, Inc, an educational training company that educates healthcare professionals on assistive technology assessment and service delivery and provides therapy services that utilizes animals and nature as tools in therapy. Dr. Zapf is the President of Reining Potential of Texas, a non-profit organization that uses the horse in occupational therapy services. Dr. Zapf is adjunct faculty for the Ph.D. Pediatric Science track at Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions in Provo, Utah and teaches a course on assistive technology. As an occupational therapist, she is passionate about helping children and their families develop skills to reach their full potential and she believes that occupational therapy, assistive technology, and animals can be powerful interventions to assist in this process.

Disclosures:

Instructor Financial Disclosure(s): Dr. Zapf received an honorarium from Interactive Metronome, Inc. for the development and presentation of this educational offering. She does not receive royalties or any other form of compensation for the continued publication and use of educational materials she has authored/coauthored for Interactive Metronome, Inc. Dr. Zapf does not sell or receive compensation for the sale of Interactive Metronome products.

Instructor Nonfinancial Disclosure(s): Dr. Zapf is owner of The Children's Therapy Center, Inc where she uses the Interactive Metronome in clinical practice.

Course Content Disclosure:

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Course Origination Date*: 2/15/2023

*Course content is reviewed annually to make sure it remains current and relevant to the practice of Interactive Metronome.

Agenda (60 minutes):

Introduction	Discuss ASD and Treatment Needs. Discuss neuro-components of IM related to motor needs of children with ASD.	7 Min.
Evidence	Discuss current research on IM and outcomes for children with motor performance delays. Discuss the research on repetition and motor learning theory and predictive sensing in the role of motor planning.	8 Min.
Motor Performance	Strategies and use of IM to impact motor performance areas– discuss case examples with video	25 min.
Social Awareness and Participation	Strategies and use of IM to impact social cognitive thinking and improved social awareness. Provide case examples	15 min.
Q & A	Questions and Answers	5 min.

CEUs Offered for:

0.1 AOTA; 1.25 NBCOT PDUs (1.0 contact hour)

PT/PTA & Other Disciplines Not Listed Above: If your discipline or state is not listed above, you may submit paperwork to your state board or association for CEUs if they allow you to do so. Please check with your state board/association prior to registering for this course.

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