

Providing consultancy, assessment, and treatment services for Paediatric Feeding Disorders internationally including children with feeding issues such as:

- Gastrostomy (G-Tube) or nasogastric (NG-Tube) tube dependence (tube weaning)
- Liquid dependence (formula, bottle)
- Underweight/poor growth
- Inappropriate mealtime behaviour (tantrums, crying/screaming, turning head, covering mouth, hitting the spoon/cup, throwing food/utensils, spitting out food, holding food in mouth without swallowing, aggression, self-injury) and long mealtimes
- Gagging, coughing, vomiting
- Selectivity (“picky”/“fussy” eaters): Not eating foods from all food groups (protein, starch, vegetable, fruit) separately, eating only snack/junk foods, only eating food at certain temperatures, prepared/presented a certain way, of specific brands/certain colours, or in certain receptacles/utensils
- Not drinking from an open cup or feeding self age-appropriately
- Not drinking liquids such as water and milk
- Eating only mashed or blended foods/textures, difficulty chewing/swallowing
- Only eating in certain settings (e.g., home), at certain times, or with certain people (e.g., Mum)

Dr. Tessa Taylor has been working with individuals with developmental disabilities since 1999 and is a Doctoral level Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA-D). She obtained her Master’s degree in 2001 and her PhD in Clinical Psychology in 2010 from Louisiana State University. She is a provisional psychologist in Australia.

Dr. Taylor completed her predoctoral internship and postdoctoral fellowship at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine/Kennedy Krieger Institute where she remained on as faculty in the Pediatric Feeding Disorders Unit (<http://www.kennedykrieger.org/patient-care/patient-care-programs/continuums/pediatric-feeding-disorders-continuum>). This unit is the original, largest, and one of the only interdisciplinary behaviour analytic programs of its kind and treats the most severe and complex children from all over the world.

Dr. Taylor has highly specialized and unique training and expertise in paediatric feeding disorders (e.g., tube dependence, liquid dependence, food refusal, food/texture selectivity, inappropriate mealtime behaviour) and severe problem behaviour (e.g., pica, self-injury). She has authored over 35 peer-reviewed research publications and 2 book chapters, and has nearly 40 professional presentations and posters. She serves as the Consortium Initiative Coordinator for the Association for Behavior Analysis International’s Pediatric Feeding Disorders Special Interest Group.

This approach is individualized, data-driven, intensive, and employs the only empirically supported treatments for paediatric feeding disorders with over 30 years of scientific research to demonstrate effectiveness. This treatment requires highly specialized training and is only available in a handful of locations in the USA. It is highly effective quickly, increases nutritional variety from all food groups, teaches skills needed for age-appropriate independence and texture, does not require starvation, and is applicable regardless of diagnosis or ability/skill level.

Please contact Dr. Taylor via email at DrTessaTaylor@gmail.com.

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