### Endorsed by the NIDCAP Federation International, Inc.

## **Course Background**

The NOMAS® (Neonatal Oral-Motor Assessment Scale) was developed in 1983 and has since become a reliable tool, used by the trained examiner, for the evaluation of neonatal sucking patterns in pre-term and term infants. The NOMAS® provides a comprehensive description of the infant's feeding pattern and enables the examiner to identify normal sucking patterns and to differentiate disorganized from dysfunctional patterns during reflexive sucking. The NOMAS® is used for pre- and post-test measurements to determine developmental progression and change in sucking; treatment effectiveness; degree of stress during feeding; and alterations in the sensory system reflected by feeding performance. It is necessary to accurately identify the infant's feeding pattern and diagnose the suck so that appropriate treatment may be prescribed. Performance on the NOMAS® is predictive of developmental outcome at 24 months of age.

## **Course Description**

This 3-day comprehensive course offers one day of background information in anatomy, physiology, components, types, and patterns of reflexive sucking, sensory aspects of neonatal sucking, oral-motor development of the neonate, and "diagnostic-based" treatment as framed within the model of newborn neurobehavioral competence, described in the Newborn Individualized Developmental Care and Assessment Program (NIDCAP). Days 2 and 3 will include bedside observation and scoring of sucking performance during routine feedings in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, scoring of selected and required videotapes, discussion, and finally, a Reliability check in your competence and accuracy on scoring both category and characteristic of jaw and tongue movement during neonatal sucking. Special arrangements will be made for participants who do not become reliable by the end of the course.

## **Course Objectives**

- to explain the anatomy and physiology of the infant oral mechanism
- to identify the components and types of neonatal sucking with emphasis on the infant's overall neurobehavioral functioning in the NIDCAP framework
- to differentiate normal from disorganized and dysfunctional sucking patterns in the poor feeder
- to achieve 85% reliability in the scoring of sucking characteristics on the NOMAS<sup>®</sup>
- to achieve 100% reliability in the diagnosis of sucking patterns
- to implement "diagnostic-based" treatment for the poor feeder in the NICU

## **Recommended for Professionals who:**

Evaluate feeding disorders in pre-term and term infants in the NICU; conduct in-service training on infant feeding issues; plan to research infant sucking patterns; require a predictable tool for assessment which enables formulation of accurate prognosis as well as developmental outcome; or need a pre- and post-test measure to determine treatment effectiveness. Most importantly becoming a NOMAS® Certified Professional will enable you to plan "diagnostic-based" intervention for the poor feeder.

## Hotel information will be provided when registration is confirmed.

Cancellation Policy: A written request for a full refund must be received by NOMAS\* International no later than 21 business days prior to the start of the course. Written requests later than 21 days will result in a 50% refund; 72 hours or less no refund, NOMAS\* International reserves the right to cancel the event 7 days prior to course date and assumes no responsibility for pre-purchased airline tickets. When available you may be able to apply your tuition to a later course date.

## **Course Presenters**



Marjorie Meyer Palmer, M.A., NLP is a Speech Pathologist and Neonatal/Pediatric Feeding Specialist, formerly a Clinical Instructor in the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine at Boston University School of Medicine and a Clinical Instructor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of California-San Francisco (UCSF) School of Medicine. She is Certified in Neuro-Developmental Treatment (NDT), an NFI Professional Member, author of the NOMAS®, and Founder/Director of NOMAS® International. Ms. Palmer has published the reliability study, follow-

up study, developmental continuum study, and has taught NOMAS® Certification Courses in Europe, Asia, the Middle East, Canada, and the United States. To date NOMAS® Certified/Licensed Professionals are represented in 45 U.S. States and 38 foreign countries and may be viewed on the website: www.nomasinternational.org

#### Disclosures:

Financial: Ms. Marjorie Meyer Palmer receives financial reimbursement as a NOMAS\* Instructor. Non-Financial: Ms. Marjorie Meyer Palmer is the Founder/Director of NOMAS\* International and the author of NOMAS\*.

Linda B. Lowman, M.Ed., NLP is a Developmental Specialist at the Alexander Center for Neonatology at Winnie Palmer Hospital for Women and Babies in Orlando, Florida. Ms. Lowman is certified to administer the Brazelton Neonatal Behavioral Assessment Scale (BNBAS); certified in the Newborn Individualized Developmental Care and Assessment Program (NIDCAP); and a certified educator of infant massage. She is a member of NIDCAP Federation International and NOMAS® International and has been working in the NICU for over 30 years. Ms. Lowman was NOMAS® Certified in 2000, has



been using the NOMAS® in her clinical work for almost 20 years, and as a NOMAS® Course Instructor plans to teach two NOMAS® Certification Courses in Orlando, Florida in 2021.

#### Disclosures:

Financial: Ms. Linda Lowman has no relevant financial relationships.

Non-financial: Ms. Linda Lowman is a NOMAS® Certification Course Instructor who is a full-time employee of Winnie Palmer Hospital for Women and Babies in Orlando, Florida.

Brenda Takata, OTR/L, MHA, NLP has over 25 years of experience and has been at Queen of the Valley Medical Center for 20 years with a focus on evaluation and treatment of infants in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit for the past 17 years. Ms. Takata demonstrates her passion for this population through her dedicated interaction and care in working with the infants and their families on both breast and bottle feeding. She was NOMAS® Certified in 1999 and has recently become a NOMAS® Course Instructor. Ms. Takata also treats pediatric patients with both



motor and sensory feeding difficulties. She will teach three courses in 2021 in West Covina, California.

#### Disclosures:

Financial: Ms. Takata receives financial reimbursement as a NOMAS\* Certification Course Instructor. Non-Financial: Ms. Takata has no relevant non-financial relationships.





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This course is offered for 1.90 ASHA CEUs, (Advanced Level; Professional Area)



Provider approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing provider #CEP 13879 for 19 contact hours.

For additional information phone (510) 651-2285;

FAX (831) 623-9007 • Email: marjorie@nomasinternational.org



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# **Course Registration Form NOMAS® Certification Course**

**Tuition:** \$875.00 (check, cash, money order) or \$910.00 (credit card) paid via PayPal.com to email: marjorie@nomasinternational.org. This extra fee covers the service charge. Tuition includes all course materials, reliability testing, and a Certificate of either Reliability or attendance. Meals, transportation, and lodging are not included. 50% of full tuition is required as a deposit and must accompany your registration form. The balance is due prior to the start of the course and must be postmarked 18 days earlier. You will receive notification of your acceptance into the course and will be required at that time to complete a more detailed professional history form and submit copies of your immunization record, recent negative TB test, professional license, and documentation of a flu shot (November – April courses). These are necessary requirements for entrance into the intensive care nurseries. It is recommended that you plan to register one month in advance in order to complete hospital requirements. All courses are limited to 12 participants and acceptance is on a "first come, first served" basis.

Please detach and mail with check to:

## **NOMAS®** International

1528 Merrill Road San Juan Bautista, CA 95045

(checks should be made payable to NOMAS® International)

(work)
FAX
ED COURSE DATE: (please # in order of preference)
Jan. 24-26
Feb. 25-27 April 30-May2 Oct. 1-3
March 5-7 June 25-27
Sept. (TBA) Nov. (TBA)

NOMAS® International 1528 Merrill Road San Juan Bautista, CA 95045 LIVE ONLINE
2021 NOMAS® Certification Courses

## **2021 Certification Course**

in Administration and Scoring of the **NOMAS**®

(Neonatal Oral-Motor Assessment Scale)



The course will focus exclusively on Certification in the Administration and Scoring of the NOMAS\* and will not include information on similar or related products or services.

With bedside observation and scoring in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit presented LIVE ONLINE

- ◆ Adan Hospital Hadiya, Kuwait January 24-26
- ◆ Emanate Health-Queen of the Valley Campus West Covina, CA February 25-27; April 30-May 2; October 1-3
  - ◆ Wake Med-Raleigh Campus Raleigh, NC March 5-7; June 25-27
- ◆ Winnie Palmer Hospital for Women & Babies Orlando, FL September (TBA); November (TBA)

