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The impact of Gastroesophageal reflux on breastfeeding and the development of oral functions

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The Gastroesophageal reflux (GER) or the gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), whether primary or secondary to some pathology, act on the larynx esophageal area, causing inflammations and irritability on the baby. As a consequence, there is a significant alteration on the sensibility of the pharyngeal larynx region (Suskind, 2006) and intraoral hypersensitivity (Meira, 2017), which may result in dysfunction on swallowing and disorders of suction force, compromising the effectiveness of breastfeeding. Since there is an alteration on the sensibility of the oropharyngeal musculature, it is possible to observe early weaning or the impairment of the beginning of breastfeeding, difficulty in weight gain, difficulties in feeding introduction, food refusal behavior and/or food selectivity, difficulties in the development of the chewing function, disorders in facial skull development and disorders in nasal respiratory function. Speech therapy can rapidly work on this sensitivity, allowing the adequacy of oral functions. In some cases, when there is no positive therapeutic response, the speech therapy work can become an important tool for diagnosing diseases such as GERD, food allergies, eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE), etc.



Recent Publications

1. Meira, RRS, Speechtherapist: when to indicate?. Coordinators: Chiba, SM, Alvarez, AE, Bolonetti, LSM. in *Pediatrician pneumology*, Atheneu, RJ, 33: 367-372, 2019.
2. Meira, RRS, Nakamura, C, Gonçalves, PMP, Monteiro, P, Prematurity and the speech therapy work, to be published in june/2019.
3. Meira, RRS, Gonçalves, PMP, Maunsell, R, Favaro, MMA. Laryngomalacea and Babies Swallowing Disorders. <https://www.brasfono2018.com.br/wp-content/uploads/2018/100/sessaodeposterres/335.pdf>
4. Meira, RRS, Marciano, DMF, Consequences of the GER and APLV on Pediatric and Speechtherapy Clinic. A case report. Published in V International Neonatology Congress. 2018.
5. Meira, RRS, Puccinni, F, Suction Pattern and the nipple confusion. file:///C:/Users/Roseane/Downloads/Anais-Confus%C3%A3o%20de%20bicos.pdf

Biography

Dr. Roseane Rebelo S. Meira is a speechtherapist specialized in swallowing disorders with several international courses. She has been seeing baby patients for 27 years with large experience in breastfeeding and chewing issues. She has been teaching in neonatology courses for speechtherapists for 15 years, contributing to the training of new professionals.

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