

D'Onofrio Institute for Advanced Myofunctional Studies

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COURSE DATA:

Title: Breaking Down the Assessment & Treatment Process for Orofacial Myofunctional Disorders – Zadar Croatia April 2026

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COURSE DETAILS:

This one-day course is an advanced level course for medical and dental professionals that specialize in orofacial myofunctional disorder (OMD) detailing the diagnostic and treatment process for OMD. Attendees will be able to apply diagnostic and treatment considerations to their caseloads immediately and resolve OMD in their patients effectively and efficiently.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Outline the structural, functional, and behavioral areas of an OMD assessment.
- Differentially screen OMD from dysphagia, feeding, articulation, and voice disorder.
- Determine how to plan, prioritize, and coordinate treatment.
- Discuss, apply, and practice oromyofunctional exercises and techniques

AGENDA:

Morning Agenda - Assessment:

- Screening vs Symptom Identification vs Differential Diagnosis
- Current Protocols
- Waiting Room Observation & Evaluation Structure
- Breaking It Down: Structure, Function & Behavior
- General Observations of the Face and Head
- Breathing & Phonation
- Jaw Structure & Function
- Lip Structure & Function
- Malocclusion & Jaw Relationship
- Lingual Resting Posture
- Tongue Structure & Function
- Hard Palate and Soft Palate Structure & Function
- Feeding, Chewing and Swallowing Assessment
- OMD versus Dysphagia and Voice Disorder
- Parafunctional Habits
- Prognosis: Patient Compliance and Parent Involvement
- Prioritizing Care and Initial Referrals

Afternoon Agenda - Treatment:

- Symptom Management, Exercise Programs & Individualized Treatment Planning
- Completing the Evaluation, Making Recommendations & Prioritizing Treatment
- Individual Treatment Planning Hierarchy
- Individual Treatment Plan Considerations
- Oromyofunctional Goals
- Oromyofunctional Objectives

- Oromyofunctional Strategies: From Most Natural to Most Artificial
- Oromyofunctional Exercises
- Jaw & Facial Exercises
- Lip Exercises
- Tongue Exercises
- Soft Palate Oropharyngeal Exercises
- Lingual Frenectomy Exercises
- Obstructive Sleep Apnea Exercises
- Remediating Oral Habits
- Oromyofunctional Tools
- Exercise versus Practice versus Generalization
- Completing Patient Care
- Follow Up Care

PRESENTER BIO:

Linda D'Onofrio, MS, CCC-SLP completed her degree in Communication Disorders at the University of Oregon, her medical externship at the Oregon Health Sciences University Medical Center with a focus on inpatient neurological acute care and outpatient cognitive rehabilitation, and she completed her clinical fellowship at the Oregon VA Medical Center with a focus on dysphagia, aphasia, brain injury, and oral cancer. For 22 years she's had a private practice in Portland Oregon focusing on craniofacial disorders, oromyofunctional disorders, feeding disorders and dysphagia, and sensory-motor speech disorders. As an adjunct instructor, she has taught graduate courses in oromyofunctional disorders and craniofacial disorders. She has reviewed manuscripts for the Journal of Clinical Pediatric Dentistry, Folia Phoniatrica et Logopaedica, and the Journal of Oral Rehabilitation. Her paper "Oral dysfunction as a cause of malocclusion" in the journal Orthodontics & Craniofacial Research was awarded the most downloaded article for the journal in 2019 and 2020. She has lectured on oral physiology at several universities, including Stanford, Tufts, and the Vienna School for Interdisciplinary Dentistry.

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT:

Financial:

- I am a retired clinician and paid lecturer and I am receiving compensation for this presentation.
- D'Onofrio Institute for Advanced Myofunctional Therapy is not a recognized certifying body and completion certificates are not endorsed by any medical or dental association.

Nonfinancial:

- I am a past president and former board member of the Oregon Speech Language Hearing Association (OSHA).
- I am a member of the American Speech Language Hearing Association (ASHA).
- I am the administrator of the Oromyofunctional Study Group on Facebook.