

## Course Description:

This course is designed to address the effectiveness of Interactive Metronome (IM) with the autism spectrum client. This course is divided into two parts – Part II will address training strategies for optimal performance. This one hour course will cover three main areas: 1) Handling emotional outbursts and sensory overload with the autistic client; 2) Setting up the training environment for optimal performance; and 3) A sample client protocol and training. Course material will be in power-point style with easy to reference lists and learning tools. Photographic and video examples will be presented to illustrate salient points and to reinforce learning. *This course is not offered for contact hours/CEUs.*

## Target Audience:

- Speech and Language Pathologist
- Speech and Language Pathology Assistant
- Audiologist
- Occupational Therapist
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Physical Therapist
- Physical Therapy Assistant
- Athletic Trainer
- Licensed Medical, Rehabilitation or Mental Health Professional
- Music Therapist

## Learning Outcomes:

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

- Implement appropriate strategies to prevent and manage sensory overload in the autism spectrum child;
- Create a treatment environment for the autism spectrum child that promotes optimal performance and treatment outcomes;
- Establish functional treatment goals for treatment of various mild cognitive and developmental delays in the clinic setting.

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

## Specific Learning Outcomes for Speech-Language Pathologists & Audiologists:

- Implement appropriate strategies to prevent and manage sensory overload in the autism spectrum child with a communication disorder;
- Create a treatment environment for the autism spectrum child that promotes optimal performance and speech and language treatment outcomes;
- Establish functional treatment goals for treatment of various mild cognitive and developmental delays in the clinic setting.

*\*Note: This course covers information that pertains to licensed therapists and therapy assistants. SLPA professionals must practice IM under the supervision of a licensed SLP.*

## Instructor:

**April Christopherson, OTR/L** has been an Occupational Therapist for almost 20 years and has worked with diverse populations in a variety of settings – including home health, private clinic and in-patient rehabilitation. She is co-owner of Performance Advantage, LLC in Colorado Springs, CO where her current clientele range from pediatrics to adults to high performance athletes. She believes in a whole, team approach to the client – including various medical professionals and therapists plus the use of functional neurology and metabolic/nutrition counseling.

April was granted her BS degree in Occupational Therapy from St Ambrose University in Davenport, IA in 1991. She obtained a BA in Psychology at the same time. She has furthered her education by taking courses and reading materials that foster her knowledge in helping clients recover neurological functioning from the lowest level to the higher cognitive and executive levels (such as Boehme Approach to Treatment of the Baby, Sensory Integration Clinics (various), The Listening Program, Alert Program, Treating Drug Affected Children, OT in the Schools, Benbow's Loops and Other Groups, Marriage and Family Counseling, Nutrition, Studies in Neurology, and various other certification classes.) She uses IM as an intensive neurological treatment option for qualified clients and as an introductory functional treatment option for pediatrics.

**Disclosures:**

**Instructor Financial Disclosure(s):** April is the author of this and several other webinars on the clinical application of Interactive Metronome technology. She received an honorarium for the development and presentation of this and other webinars she has presented from Interactive Metronome, Inc. April is also an instructor for Interactive Metronome, for which she receives a fee for teaching each course and reimbursement of travel expenses from Interactive Metronome, Inc.

**Instructor Nonfinancial Disclosure(s):** April is the owner of MaxAchieve, Inc and uses Interactive Metronome regularly in clinical practice.

**Course Content Disclosure:**

The Interactive Metronome, Inc. has developed and patented a licensed technology trademarked as the Interactive Metronome®. (U.S. Patents #4,919,030; #5,529,498; #5,743,744; #6,719,690; other U.S. and foreign patents pending) Interactive Metronome, Inc. is the sole source of the following products: Interactive Metronome®, Gait Mate® and IM Home®. Because there are no other like-kind products available, course offerings will only cover information that pertains to the effective and safe use of the above-named products.

**Agenda (60 minutes):**

- Speaker introduction & disclosure
- Focus on abilities versus disabilities
- Treatment planning for intensive intervention
- Monitoring and adapting individual treatment plans for optimal success
- Motivational strategies to encourage performance & outcomes
- Videos: treatment activities, clinical rationale, & performance analysis
- Sample treatment plan: frequency, intensity, goals, adaptations based upon unique needs of clients with autism
- Online post-test & course evaluation

**Instructional Methods:**

LECTURE, PPT, VIDEOS, CASE STUDY

**Contact Hours/CEUs:**

This course is not offered for contact hours/CEUs.