

# Learning Objectives

MedBridge  
The History of the NICU  
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## Course Objectives:

Following completion of course, the learner will be able to:

- Discuss the history of providing medical intervention to the premature neonate population.
- Discuss various factors which impact the epidemiology of premature births
- Discuss the theoretical basis and the evidence based outcomes for therapeutic services in the NICU.
- Identify the advanced competencies required of the rehabilitation therapist providing services in the NICU
- Identify the NICU team members, NICU common terminology, equipment and abbreviations.
- Discuss typical motor and sensory development observed in premature neonates; 23 weeks gestational age thru 2 months post conceptual age.
- Discuss the pathophysiology of common medical diagnoses found in the NICU, the outcome of these diagnoses and potential impact a therapeutic management/treatment intervention may have with the neonate and family/caregiver
- Identify common self-regulation signals displayed by premature neonates
- Describe the different state behaviors displayed by premature neonates
- Discuss and identify the various components of a physical evaluation and examination of a premature neonate and their family during their NICU stay
- Discuss and recognize evidence based research and clinical application for therapeutic evaluation, assessment and intervention in the NICU
- Recognize valid and reliable standardized testing tools available for assessment with an neonate in the NICU environment
- Provide rationale for selection of a therapeutic intervention with a neonate and their family/caregiver while in the NICU
- Recognize the family as an important role in the NICU
- Discuss importance of discharge planning with the family of the NICU neonate
- Provide evidence based thoughts and comments for recommendations of follow up care of a neonate and family/caregiver after discharge from the NICU