DEVELOPMENTAL PEDIATRICS I

Credits: 3 (2-1) Cr. Hrs.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Knowledge-Based LOs

Explain major theories of child development (psychosocial, cognitive, behavioral) and their relevance to communication development.

Describe normal somatic, neuro-motor, cognitive, and psychological development across childhood.

Identify cranial nerve anatomy (V, VI, VII, X, XII) and explain their role in speech, swallowing, and oral motor function.

Explain normal feeding and swallowing development in children.

Describe prenatal, perinatal, and postnatal risk factors affecting development.

Recognize common developmental and neurological disorders affecting speech and language.

- Skill-Based LOs

Perform pediatric history taking including developmental milestones and family history.

Conduct basic neurological and oral motor examinations relevant to SLP practice.

Differentiate between typical and atypical development using clinical indicators.

- Clinical Reasoning LOs

Identify early signs of developmental delay and neurological impairment.

Formulate differential diagnoses for developmental and communication disorders.

Explain the impact of medical conditions (e.g., CP, ASD, Down syndrome) on speech and language development.

Course Content:	**MCQs (30)**	**SEQs (06)**
Foundations of Child Development • **Definitions and principles of growth and development** Define growth and development and state the principles of development.	**04**	

15/05/2026

• **Domains of development: physical, cognitive, language, social, emotional** Identify and describe the five domains of development: physical, cognitive, language, social, and emotional. • **Overview of developmental milestones** List typical developmental milestones across different domains and age ranges. • **Nature vs. nurture in development** Explain the nature vs. nurture debate and its relevance to child development.		
Theories of Child Development and Communication • **Psychosocial development (Erikson's stages)** Describe Erikson's stages of psychosocial development. • **Cognitive development (Piaget's stages)** Describe Piaget's stages of cognitive development. • **Behavioral and social learning theories (Skinner, Bandura)** Explain behavioral learning theory (Skinner) and social learning theory (Bandura). • **Information processing theory (basic overview)** Provide a basic overview of information processing theory.	**05**	**01**

Application of developmental theories to speech and language acquisition Apply developmental theories to the acquisition of speech and language. • **Role of environment and interaction in communication development** Explain the role of environment and social interaction in communication development.		
Normal Development Across Childhood • **Somatic growth: height, weight, head circumference** Describe normal somatic growth patterns including height, weight, and head circumference. • **Neuro-motor development: gross and fine motor milestones** Identify gross and fine motor milestones in neuro-motor development. • **Cognitive development: attention, memory, problem-solving** Describe cognitive development in the areas of attention, memory, and problem-solving. • **Psychological and social development** Identify key features of psychological and social development across childhood. • **Speech and language milestones (pre-linguistic to advanced language)** List speech and language milestones from the pre-linguistic stage through advanced language development.	**05**	**01**

Cranial Nerves and Oral-Motor Function • **Overview of cranial nerves relevant to SLP: CN V (Trigeminal), CN VI (Abducens), CN VII (Facial), CN X (Vagus), CN XII (Hypoglossal)** Identify the cranial nerves relevant to speech-language pathology: CN V, CN VI, CN VII, CN X, and CN XII. • **Functional roles in: Speech production, swallowing and oral Motor control** Describe the functional roles of these cranial nerves in speech production. Describe the functional roles of these cranial nerves in swallowing. Describe the functional roles of these cranial nerves in oral motor control. • **Clinical relevance in assessment and diagnosis** Explain the clinical relevance of cranial nerve function in SLP assessment and diagnosis.	**05**	**01**
Feeding and Swallowing Development • **Normal feeding development (infancy to childhood)** Describe normal feeding development from infancy through childhood. • **Development of sucking, chewing, and swallowing** Describe the development of sucking, chewing, and swallowing. • **Transition from liquid to solid diet** Explain the transition from a liquid to a solid diet in typical development.	**03**	**01**

• **Coordination of respiration and swallowing** Describe the coordination of respiration and swallowing during development.		
Risk Factors Affecting Development • **Prenatal factors: infections, maternal health, genetics, teratogens** Identify prenatal risk factors including infections, maternal health, genetics, and teratogens. • **Perinatal factors: prematurity, birth asphyxia, low birth weight** Identify perinatal risk factors including prematurity, birth asphyxia, and low birth weight. • **Postnatal factors: infections, malnutrition, environmental deprivation** Identify postnatal risk factors including infections, malnutrition, and environmental deprivation. • **Impact of risk factors on communication development** Explain the impact of prenatal, perinatal, and postnatal risk factors on communication development.	**03**	**1**
Pediatric Assessment Skills • **. Pediatric case history taking** Collect pediatric case history information related to developmental milestones. Collect pediatric case history information related to birth and medical history. Collect pediatric case history information related to family and social background.	**02**	

• **Use of developmental screening tools** Use basic developmental screening tools in pediatric SLP practice.		
Neurological and Oral-Motor Examination **Basic neurological examination relevant to SLP** Perform a basic neurological examination relevant to speech-language pathology. Cranial nerve assessment (functional approach) **Oral mechanism examination: Structure and function** Examine the oral mechanism for structure and function. Assess oral motor tone, strength, and coordination.	**05**	**1**

PRACTICALS

List of Practical	No. of OSPEs
• Domains of Development • Developmental Theories Application	**01**
• Speech & Language Milestones • Cranial Nerve Function	**01**
• Feeding & Swallowing Development • Pediatric Case History • Oral Mechanism Examination	**01**

SUGGESTED INSTRUCTIONAL / READING MATERIAL

1. Basis of Pediatrics by Pervez Akbar Khan - 11th Edition
2. AAP-developmental and Behavioral- pediatrics- 2nd edition