

Adj Assoc Professor Thuy Frakking is a Certified Practising Speech Pathologist with >20 years clinical experience in paediatric feeding disorders across tertiary, secondary, and community hospital settings in Australia. She is an Advanced Speech Pathologist (Paediatrics) at Gold Coast University Hospital, Queensland Health Clinician



Research Fellow, and Research Director at Caboolture Hospital. Her program of research focusses on translational paediatric research on cervical auscultation that improves the accessibility of assessments and treatments available for infants and children with feeding disorders, including aspiration. She has attracted >\$3M (1.7M as CIA) in research funding and is passionate about building research capacity and capability among clinicians. She currently supervises research higher degree students and provides mentoring and clinical supervision to practicing speech pathology clinicians and students in the field of paediatric feeding disorders. ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2724-6919>

Associate Professor Kelly Weir is the Director of



Allied Health Research at the Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne and A/Prof - Principal Research Fellow at The University of Melbourne. She is a certified practicing speech pathologist with extensive clinical dysphagia practice (>35 yrs) in tertiary

paediatric hospitals and community settings. Kelly practices and researches in the area of paediatric dysphagia/feeding disorder including aspiration-related respiratory disease, oral feeding on nasal high flow, paediatric and neonatal intensive/acute care management, tracheostomy, VFSS and dysphagia in children with cerebral palsy and disability. She leads the Allied Health Research Capacity Development program at Royal Children's Hospital. Kelly is an international presenter, has over 100 publications in international scientific journals, and her work cited extensively. She supervises research higher degree students candidates and mentors speech pathologists & other Allied Health clinicians in undertaking clinically driven research in paediatric dysphagia & other specialty areas.

<https://findanexpert.unimelb.edu.au/profile/1012457-kelly-weir>

Address

Melbourne Business School,
The University of Melbourne
200 Leicester St, Carlton 3053
Victoria, Australia

Trams/Bus

Accessible by Tram stop: Lincoln
Square/Swanston Stop 3
Trams 1, 3, 5, 6, 16, 64, 67, 72
Bus 200, 207, 402, 505



Cervical Auscultation in Paediatric Dysphagia

The University of Melbourne
26th-27th November 2026

A research-evidence informed,
practical workshop for speech
pathologists providing dysphagia
management to infants and children.

Presenters:

Adjunct Associate

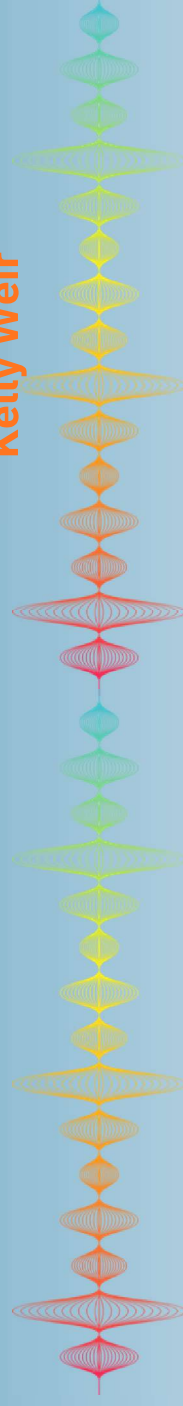
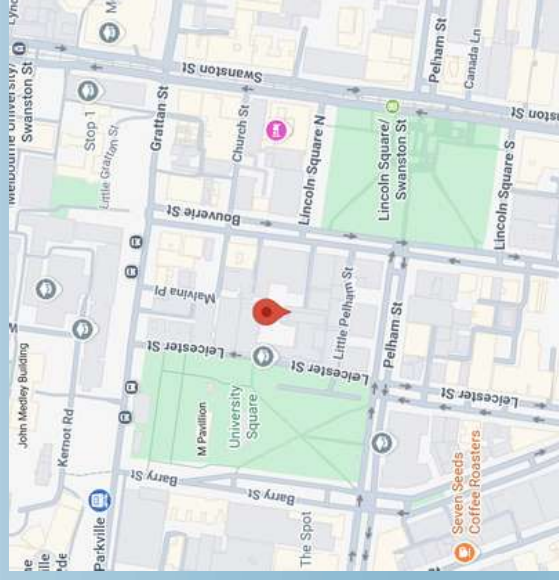
Professor

Thuy Frakking

&

Associate Professor

Kelly Weir



Target Audience

This workshop is suitable for speech pathologists in all practice settings including private practice, community and child health, disability services, special education, and those working with children with complex conditions and hospital and health services (neonatal and paediatric). Case examples include children from preterm birth, toddler, child and adolescent age groups.

Level of Instruction

Novice to Intermediate skills in management of paediatric feeding disorders.

Learning Objectives

- To identify normal and abnormal swallowing and respiration sounds as they relate to the physiological events of swallowing
- To develop knowledge and skills in the practical application of stethoscopes and microphones in dysphagia assessment
- To develop listening, analysis and interpretation skills using acoustic recordings of typically developing infants and children, and those with dysphagia, including aspiration
- Distinguishing normal versus aspirating swallows and breath sounds
- To describe and report on cervical auscultation findings
- To gain awareness of current evidence relating to the clinical utility of cervical auscultation with the infants and children

Course content:

- Normalswallow sounds in children
- Evidence for cervical auscultation
- Components of normal swallow sounds: perceptual and acoustic features
- Equipment and practical application
- Practical training: swallow / respiratory sounds in typical infants and children during breastfeeding, bottle feeding, cup drinking, and when eating purees and solids
- Abnormal swallow / respiration sounds
- Swallow / respiration sounds in infants and children with dysphagia with VFSS examples
- Practical training: differentiation between abnormal vs normal swallowing/ respiration sounds
- Special populations including preterm infants, complex conditions, trache
- Describing and reporting findings

Contact Details

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OR

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Registration Information: Course Fee:
\$880 (incl GST) + Eventbrite ticket fee

1. Register via Eventbrite by:
Thursday 12th November 2025
Limit of 50 participants
2. Registration Link:

[C A W o r k s h o p 2 0 2 6](#)

Payment enquiries to:
kelly.weir@unimelb.edu.au



Please bring a
stethoscope to the
workshop for
practical activities

If looking to purchase a stethoscope, we recommend a Littman Classic II Infant Stethoscope for both infants & children. Please note, we do not have any financial arrangement with Littman.