



NEWS RELEASE

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O'Connor, Conrad and Finsand earn VitalStim technology certification



O'Connor



Conrad



Finsand

Lincoln, Neb.—Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital Speech Language Pathologists Deb O'Connor, Jennifer Conrad and Gail Finsand recently earned certification in VitalStim® therapy, a specialized, FDA-approved form of neuromuscular electrical stimulation (NMES) used in conjunction with traditional swallowing therapy to treat dysphagia.

Dysphagia, or difficulty with swallowing, affects millions of adults in the U.S. The result of a stroke, head injury, neurological diseases, aging and other diagnoses, dysphagia may cause episodes of coughing or choking with meals, recurrent pneumonia, weight loss and/or loss of appetite. At Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital, speech language pathologists receive special training to evaluate and treat dysphagia to improve individuals' swallowing, and ultimately their lives.

Speech-language pathologists must complete special training and obtain certification to provide this therapy to patients with dysphagia. VitalStim is available to both inpatients and outpatients at Madonna's Main Campus, 5401 South Street in Lincoln. For more information about VitalStim, call (402) 483-9489.