

## What is a feeding disorder

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A child with a feeding disorder does not consume a broad enough variety of food and liquid orally to gain weight and grow. General feeding difficulties are relatively common among most children. Many children can be picky eaters and consume a limited number of foods, BUT the foods eaten span all the food groups and provide a well-balanced diet.

A child WITH a feeding disorder, may only eat a few foods, completely avoiding entire food groups, textures, or liquids necessary for proper development. As a result, children diagnosed with feeding disorders are at greater risk for compromised physical and cognitive development

Pediatric feeding disorders are common. The rate of feeding disorders is much higher in children with developmental disabilities. As many as 8 out of every 10 children with a disability may have a feeding disorder.



**FEEDING  
CLINIC**  
at  
Advanced Therapy Clinic

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Children with a feeding disorder may have a past history of...

- Delayed development
- Failure to thrive
- Difficulty swallowing
- Picky Eating
- Reflux
- Behavioral/Emotional issues
- Difficulty gaining weight

Schedule with our feeding clinic for a comprehensive evaluation from a Nutritionist, Speech and Occupational Therapist.

### **ADVANCED THERAPY CLINIC**

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Billings, MT 59102  
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## TYPES OF FEEDING DISORDERS

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- Difficulty or inability to chew or swallow
- Food or drink refusal
- Limited self feeding skills
- Mealtime behavior challenges
- Picky eating and food selectivity
- Tantrums at mealtime
- Reoccurring choking, gagging or vomiting
- Oral motor and sensory problems
- Tube-dependent (nasogastric NG or gastrostomy G tubes, etc.)
- Poor/slow or no weight gain
- Developmental delays or disorders



If your baby can't or won't eat, it may be more than picky eating. Please see your primary physician for a referral.



# ADVANCED THERAPY CLINIC

## Feeding Clinic

*"The feeding team at Advanced Therapy Clinic not only evaluated my child, but provided recommendations and training so that I could continue the plan of care at home. It has been challenging at times to work with my son on his feeding, but the team provided ongoing support when I needed it. I see weekly progress and most exciting is to see my sons quality of life improve. The Feeding Clinic has been an integral part of his success."*

-Lindsey B.

### OUR TREATMENT APPROACH

**Feeding is very complex as there are medical, physiological, anatomical, emotional, and behavioral factors that affect how and if a child will eat.**

In order to address all of these factors appropriately, we use an interdisciplinary team approach to assess a child's feeding disorder and create a treatment plan. Our program combines the therapeutic techniques of behavioral therapy (ABA), occupational (OT) nutrition (RD), and feeding therapy (SLP).

In the treatment of children with feeding disorders. Our team of specialists can measurably improve a child's appropriate eating behavior while decreasing inappropriate behavior so that mealtime can become family time again. Our ongoing commitment to implementing innovative methods to address increasingly complex feeding disorders helps ensure positive outcomes.

### REFERRALS

In order to determine eligibility. We require a medical provider referral faxed to our clinic.

Please fax medical records that are pertinent at the present time, and results of video swallow (if applicable) of the child swallowing

Fax: 406-206-5262 Phone:406-690-6996

### Requirements

In order to participate in outpatient intensive therapy, your child must have:

Adequate respiratory status. -Successful tolerance of bolus feedings without significant emesis-able to tolerate four ounces of feeding over 20 minutes without emesis. - One family member must be present at all times. Child must have ability to swallow spontaneously and safely.



### OUR TEAM

All of the team members work together to assess each child and to create a treatment program by looking at both the specific biological and behavioral issues involved. This includes evaluating how a child's biologic factors such as medical conditions or oral-motor skill deficits, as well as their mealtime behavior such as throwing temper tantrums in order to be excused from eating function, together or in isolation, to keep the child from eating.

*Our interdisciplinary treatment team includes*

Occupational Therapist

Speech Therapist

Nutritionist

Behavioral Therapist

Social Worker/Counselor (if needed)

Lactation Consultant (if needed)

*We will refer out if needed*

Pediatric Gastroenterologist

Developmental Psychologist