

PECS Seminar

Madrid 2007

REGISTRATION FORM

Please fill in the form and send it by fax: 0034 962589090
or e-mail pecsinspain@hotmail.com

SURNAME

NAME

PROFESSION

ORGANISATION

ADDRESS

TEL. MOBILE.....

FAX..... E-mail:

REGISTRATION FEE

For registration & payment:

- By October 31st: € 350,00
- As from November 1st € 400,00

Payment

By transfer to the following Bank account:
IBAN: ES72 0093 0310 0410 0116 0241
(beneficiary: Katya Hazelden)

Date Signature

Anna Plessa is the Clinical Director of Pyramid Educational Consultants in Greece and Cyprus. She has studied Psychology and has an M.Ed. in Educational Psychology. Her clinical work is systematically supervised by Behavior Analysts, where she is trained to apply ABA principles of learning (Applied behaviour Analysis) directly to clients and trainers (educators). As a PECS consultant, she has been trained to an advanced level in the use of PECS (Picture Exchange Communication System) and to train others in Greece and Cyprus to implement PECS. Over the last 5 year period in Greece she has been invited to train professionals all around the country, and is aiming to carry on providing consultancy services and research to support the training system with the Greek and Cypriot population.



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SEMINAR SECRETARIAT

Katya Hazelden – 0034 695672630



Pyramid Educational Consultants, Inc.

2-Day PECS Training Workshop

(Picture Exchange Communication System)



MADRID

1 & 2 December 2007

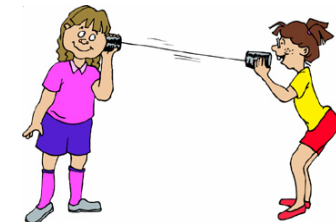


Trainer: Anna Plessa

Educational Psychologist, M.Ed., BACB
Director of Pyramid Educational Consultants Greece

Hotel Kris Cazadora - Madrid

TIME: 08.30 – 16.30



WHAT IS PECS

The Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) was developed in 1985 as a unique augmentative/alternative training package that teaches children and adults with autism and other communication deficits to initiate communication. First used at the Delaware Autistic Program, PECS has received worldwide recognition for focusing on the initiation component of communication. PECS does not require complex or expensive materials. It was created with educators, resident care providers and families in mind, and so it is readily used in a variety of settings.

PECS begins with teaching a student to exchange a picture of a desired item with a "teacher", who immediately honours the request. The training protocol is based on B.F. Skinner's book, Verbal Behavior so that functional verbal operants are systematically taught using prompting and reinforcement strategies that will lead to independent communication. Verbal prompts are not used, thus building immediate initiation and avoiding prompt dependency. The system goes on to teach discrimination of symbols and then how to put them all together in simple sentences. In the most advanced Phases, individuals are taught to comment and answer direct questions. Many preschoolers using PECS also begin developing speech.

The system has been successful with adolescents and adults who have a wide array of communicative, cognitive and physical difficulties. The foundation for the system is the PECS Training Manual, 2nd Edition, written by Lori Frost, MS, CCC/SLP and Andrew Bondy, PhD. The manual provides all of the necessary information to implement PECS effectively. It guides readers through the six phases of training and provides examples, helpful hints and templates for data and progress reporting. This training manual is recognized by professionals in the fields of communication and behaviour analysis as an effective and practical guide to one of the most innovative systems available.

PECS is especially successful if appropriately combined with elements of behaviour analysis. The manual offers many suggestions on assessing reinforcers, teaching strategies, fading prompts and other issues. The authors encourage PECS users to create an environment that enhances and encourages communication through the use of the Pyramid

Approach to Education. The manual briefly outlines the Pyramid and how it can be established in various settings.

SEMINAR DESCRIPTION

This intense two-day training is designed to teach participants to appropriately implement the Picture Exchange Communication System. It begins with an overview of the Pyramid Approach to Education to explore the key components of designing effective educational environments. A historical overview of language training programs used with non-verbal individuals is discussed along with how to set the stage for an abundance of communication opportunities. Participants will learn how to implement the six Phases of PECS, including attributes, through presenter demonstrations, video examples and role-play opportunities. Participants will leave the workshop with a fundamental understanding of how to implement PECS with individuals with autism, related developmental disabilities, and/or limited communication skills.

What You'll Learn:

- The key Pyramid components to designing effective educational environments
- Strategies to create an abundance of opportunities for communication
- How to discuss in detail the Picture Exchange Communication System and its relationship to traditional training programs
- How to implement all six Phases of PECS with target individuals using a behaviour analytic orientation
- The criteria for transitioning from PECS to other communication modalities

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE

Logopedists, logotherapists, special education teachers, occupational therapists, psychologists, teachers and parents of people with speech problems.

Material

Participants will receive:
a) Certificate of Attendance
b) The PECS Training Manual
c) Detailed Handouts with space for note taking

FEES

For registration & payment:

- **By October 31st:** € 350,00
- **As from November 1st** € 400,00

Fees include:

- Attendance
- Printed material (Manual, Notes)
- Coffee break (twice a day)
- Light lunch
- Certificate of attendance

PAYMENT METHOD:

Payment of fees can be made by transfer to the following Bank account:
IBAN: ES72 0093 0310 0410 0116 0241
(beneficiary: Katya Hazelden)

REGISTRATION PROCESS

Registration should be made by sending the Registration Form, duly filled-in, to Katya Hazelden by fax (fax No:962589090.) or by e-mail (pecinspain@hotmail.com) accompanied by the Bank receipt for the payment of fees. Please indicate Surname/s and ID number when transferring the fees.

Cancellations:

For cancellations made until October 31st, 50% of the payment will be refunded. After this date no refund can be made.

