

Testimonials from Therapists (PT, OT & SLT)

2-Day M.A.E.S. THERAPY Introduction Course:

'A Better Understanding of Children with Cerebral Palsy and similar Neurodevelopmental Conditions'

Feedback from some Therapists who have taken this 2-Day course:

"I had been recommended by my colleagues to attend this M.A.E.S. Introduction Course and they had previously met Jean-Pierre on a Bobath course and found him to be a very good trainer. I was therefore surprised to find that M.A.E.S. is a completely different way of thinking compared to Bobath-NDT. It shows me how 'stuck' my mind has become in how I view CP and the difficulties children have. Now I feel that I can start to consider what components are 'missing'. I can now start to deconstruct the previous thought process I had and start to re-building, using the M.A.E.S. Framework.

I really enjoyed having my mind expanded and opened to the idea of a different way of assessing and treating children with CP. Very thought provoking and mind blowing."

Harriet Hughes, Paediatric Physiotherapist
Devon UK

'I was hoping to have an introduction to M.A.E.S. and this 2-day course has given me that and more and it is making me want to explore more. I like the fact that the M.A.E.S. Therapy Framework and Approach is so individualised. It has made me aware of my own need to analyse further.

I advise fellow OT's to take the opportunity everything to do this course, it would broaden your thinking and question your current practice.'

Sue Chapman, Occupational Therapist
Devon

'Really good introduction to M.A.E.S. but not enough to change therapy - obviously need the four-week course.

The course content was a good mix of theory and practical. Demonstrations are always good to back up the theory. Liked the open forum to ask questions. Really interesting introduction to MAES, but understand that it would take the four weeks course to be able to have skills to use.

Regarding my understanding of and approach to Cerebral Palsy, the M.A.E.S. concept makes more sense and makes it more realistic. It is a more progressive pathway.'

Sam Reeve, Physiotherapist
Wiltshire

"I loved it. The hands-on approach and way of moving and motivating children will help my regular patients. Obviously the 4-Week course is the ultimate way to actually get the skills".

Kirsty Williams, Physiotherapist

"M.A.E.S. has changed my goals in treatments from focusing on the physical symptoms and influencing tone, and instead focusing on the brain function. It is ground-breaking! The course is essential".

Danielle Krige, Occupational Therapist

"I like this way of approaching treatment and I think I would consider this over Bobath-NDT from a speech perspective."

Stefanie Wainwright, Speech & Language Therapist

"M.A.E.S. is a great approach and can be integrated in the work I do as a Speech Therapist. The approach breaks down each step clearly and focuses on grading tasks which I believe is very important. I understand the importance of not focusing on 'typical' development and also not to work continuously on the outcomes".

Skye Adams, Speech & Language Therapist

"A very good introduction to the MAES Framework; very useful as a stand-alone 2 days, not just an advert for the full 4-Weeks course."

Samantha Payne, Children's Physiotherapist

"I enjoyed the opening of a new approach and a new way of thinking about how CP presents over time; why children develop 'abnormal patterns' and their sense of anticipation, how this affects a child's response and how reducing it can be useful in therapy. The M.A.E.S. Framework will be helpful in both analysing where the child is, but where to start."

Thank you for an excellent introduction course. I've learnt so much."

Annie Brozaitis,
Children's Senior Occupational Therapist
Bristol UK

"M.A.E.S. gives you a better understanding of why children with CP have an 'atypical' development and how to reduce this with giving the child more choices and variation in movement. I think that it is the right way to go for further treatment of children with CP."

Marianne Hustad Specialist Physiotherapist

"I have learned something new and a different approach to observing and treating. It really makes you rethink your aims as a Physio and how to apply this new approach, starting with the origin instead of the symptoms. The original problem lies with a brain and not the musculoskeletal system".

Nazl Pillay, Physiotherapist
Cape Town

"I think it is a really good concept. This M.A.E.S. Introductory Course has already changed and improved my thinking and my approach. I can see that I am not going to be able to become proficient without more understanding and practice but I am already thinking of CP in different ways and can't help but use my hands and 'unpack' the children on my caseload in a very different way.

I am looking forward to the full 4-Week Course to learn more, gain deeper skills of movement analysis and applying a range of new treatment strategies for the different classifications."

Ali Martin, Children's Physiotherapist
Somerset, UK

"MAES opens your eyes to another way of working and you come away with a framework to explore. Revolutionizes how you see a child and fits in well with OT methodology."

Amy Blake OT Somerset

'The MAES Framework is a great visual framework to structure your approach, observation and treatment of a patient, which is also relevant for parents. User-friendly. The course is a mind shift from conventional approaches to treatment of CP. Reinforces the fact there is no 'one' treatment to fit all children and you need to be very specific in your own goal of therapy'.

Lisa Sutton, Physiotherapist

'A good build up of knowledge through the 2 days. It has taken me back to the principles and the importance of analysis and taking the time to break this down. To really examine movement skills and look to offer the right tasks / approach to allow children to move forward. Come on the course and be prepared to have a new outlook. Highly recommended.'

Ruth Jacklin
Clinical Lead Paediatric Orthopaedic Physiotherapist
Somerset

'I am a younger therapist who found the course thought provoking in a pivotal way. I have been investigating a similar approach in my treatment, but now I can better apply the M.A.E.S. Framework to continue to build my thinking/concepts and challenge myself to think/act away from 'traditional' means.

The MAES Framework assists in the breakdown of analysis of function and therefore can be used to work together with the child to build on skills or experience new skills, which can later be taken on by the child. A holistic way to approach long-term development of the child with the need for strategies to gain functional abilities and quality'.

Nicole Comminellis, Physiotherapist
Cape Town

'The MAES Framework and Approach is very useful and logical in developing individualised treatment strategies for each Child. It provides for intervention based on an understanding of the cause of presenting symptoms and provides a way of addressing the cause, hence moving away from stereotypical interventions based upon presenting symptoms. MAES Therapy is the future for children with CP and other neurodevelopmental conditions, since it addresses the cause and leads to lasting results. Therapists interested in Paediatric therapy should make an effort to attend the course'.

Tapiwa Maheya, Occupational Therapist
Namibia

'M.A.E.S. is a very useful and practical approach to engage the family in therapy as well. If one understands the framework it can be easily applied to any scenario. It improves one's observational and assessment skills. It is an eye-opener and opens a totally new world for assessment and treatment for a variety of patients. Worth attending if you have an interest in paediatrics'.

Aqueeda Moosa, Physiotherapist
Cape Town

'MAES opens up a whole new world to CP. Jean-Pierre is an expert in his field with excellent presentation skills and hands-on clinical skills'.

Marochelle Botha, Occupational Therapist

"The M.A.E.S. Introduction Course was interesting and inspiring, with a great teacher who was open for questions and discussion, good in explaining different ways to make it understandable. MAES really meets the way I think of the children, treatment and what is important. Brain and body (the whole child), variation, no fixed goals, motivation and the way to analyse: task: skill, treatment ideas and motivation. The MAES Framework is a great tool that can be used in different environments. A more systematic way to analyse."

Gyda Bjørgo Larsen Physiotherapist

"An excellent course, with a very good teacher and with a lot of practical demonstrations and opportunities to practice movement analysis and clinical reasoning. My warm recommendations to other therapists."

Rita Jonassen, Physiotherapist

'The MAES Framework has changed my perception and how I would begin to undertake what a child maybe struggling with. I can see how the MAES Approach works and am excited to know more about how to use it.

The course has influenced my understanding and approach to Cerebral Palsy by making me think about the difficulty being brain based and not about what we see in the body. The MAES Approach is so routed in OT principles.'

Charlotte Owens, Clinical Specialist Occupational Therapist
Somerset, UK

'MAES is very interesting and very different to any previous approach to Cerebral Palsy. I really like the MAES Approach and am keen to explore further.

Great to have something new in the approach to Cerebral Palsy and exciting to be encouraged to think differently. After two days, I wish I knew more and I would like to be able to practice similar handling skills.'

Wiz Chilton, Senior Paediatric Physiotherapist
London

"I enjoyed the great method demonstrated, the good contact, the respect for the child and the necessity of motivation and engagement. The course has greatly influenced my understanding and approach to Cerebral Palsy and it will make me look at it from a new perspective, I don't want to just exercise skills.

Please spread the course - excellent, interesting, motivating and inspiring!"

Ann Iren Kårtveit, Physiotherapist

'The MAES Course is beneficial for feeling empowered to use the new synergies and ideas, to be creative about treatment. To be able to use OT skills in treating CP (task analysis, Sensory processing, Play as therapy etc.) feeling positive about the role of OT in early years.'

Chris Barnard, Occupational Therapist
Somerset

"The course exceeded my expectations; it's a very different and refreshing way of thinking, observing, assessing and treating children. The visual MAES Therapy Framework of matching skills to activity demands is excellent for me to understand, but also to use with parents to support their understanding. It is very client centered."

EN, Paediatric Therapist

"I see quite a few children with Cerebral Palsy in my daily practice. I find the MAES Approach to be a good way to structure of the clinical reasoning and it fits in with practice in many ways, as well as taking into account the sensory and regulation processing problems. A good introduction to the MAES Approach."

Heidi E Fløtten, Physiotherapist
Norway

"It is a very practical approach and will help ensure other underlying difficulties are identified and treatment then based on this. Very accessible when explaining goals to families - the visual of the MAES Therapy Framework works well."

Sophie Hawkins
Paediatric Therapist
UK

"Very good pedagogic explanations. Thank you for explaining your clinical reasoning and your good explanations. I really liked the high focus on variety and exploration and the principles of asymmetry. MAES Therapy is very practical, understandable and I can use this directly in my practice. Makes me motivated to try to be a better therapist."

Kjertsti Lunde, Physiotherapist

"I learnt more about CP and how to treat it. M.A.E.S. is a different approach that can give new ideas on how to treat children I meet in my workday. A good course to participate in - to get a new perspective on treating neurological disorders."

Torunn Grimstad Physiotherapist

"I was expecting a traditional Physio approach; however, the course, the M.A.E.S. Approach is far more holistic and reflected many of the concepts of OT. It was great to see this applied in a specialised way.

I will now enter assessments with less focus on the presenting symptoms and correcting these, but instead will look in-depth at how the whole body is moving, the activity demands and work towards achieving quality performance of skills with varied, dynamic movement patterns."

Rosemary Palmer,
Children's Occupational Therapist,
Bristol, UK

M.A.E.S. 'Movement Analysis & Education Strategies' THERAPY

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