

Dr. Bobbi Pineda PhD, OTR/L, CNT

Dr. Bobbi Pineda PhD, OTR/L, CNT is an Assistant Professor in the Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, University of Southern California and Keck School of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics. Dr. Pineda's research focuses on investigating factors that impact neurodevelopmental outcomes in high-risk infants, including how the role of the parents shapes the developmental trajectory. She is an author of a multisensory program, the Supporting and Enhancing NICU Sensory Experiences (SENSE) program, for high-risk infants in the NICU and their parents. The SENSE program was developed using current evidence as well as health care provider and parent input to define the appropriate timing, dosage, and feasibility of sensory stimulation for preterm infants hospitalized in the NICU. Dr. Pineda also studies parent mental health, engagement in the NICU, early infant feeding and neurobehavioral development, and factors that support or impede outcomes of high-risk infants who start their lives in the NICU. Dr. Pineda's personal journey as a NICU parent, an occupational therapist, and a research scholar fuels her passion for improving infant care and maternal mental health.