

### **Speech-Language & Swallowing Evaluation**

- Indicated by screening, physician or parent/caregiver referral
- Indicated when evidence suggests impairments affecting structure/function and/or activities/participation
- Comprehensive assessment of the major areas of communication, swallowing and AAC

### **Validated Speech Articulation & Phonology Diagnostic Tools**

- Apraxia Profile
- Khan Lewis Phonological Analysis 2
- Arizona Artic Prof Scale 3
- Photo Articulation Test 3 (PAT3)
- CAAP – Clinical Assessment of Artic & Phonology
- Test of Phonological Awareness Skills
- Linguistics Articulation Test (LAT)
- Goldman Fristoe Test of Articulation (GFTA2)

### **Validated Language Receptive, Expressive & Pragmatic Diagnostic Tools For ages 2-18**

- Clinical Evaluation of Language Fundamentals 4 (CELF4)
- Expressive One Word Picture Vocab Test 4 (EOWPVT4)
- Non-speech Test for Receptive/Expressive Language
- Oral and Written Language Scales 2 (OWLS2)
- Preschool Language Scale 4 or 5 (PLS 4 and PLS 5)
- Receptive Expressive Emergent Language 3 (REEL3)
- Receptive One Word Picture Vocab Test 4 (ROWPVT4)
- Test of Language Development P4 (ages 4-8)
- Test of Language Development I4 (ages 8-17)
- TOPL2 Test of Pragmatic Language 2

### **Other Diagnostic Measures**

- Language Sample to identify deviations in speech and language from developmental norms.
- Parent/Caregiver report of strengths/weaknesses in ADLs.
- Phonetic & Phonemic Inventory to identify patient's speech sounds.
- Observation in natural environment for communication strengths and weaknesses.
- Oral Motor Exam to determine adequate oral structures and function.

## SLP Disorder Basics

Commonly Diagnosed Disorders	PATIENT'S INABILITY TO .....
Articulation Disorder	Produce age appropriate speech sounds (consonants and vowels)
Phonological Disorder	Use developmentally expected speech sounds for age and dialect
Receptive Language Disorder	Understand spoken, written or gestural communication
Expressive Language Disorder	Use spoken, written or gestural language to express wants, needs, thoughts and ideas
Pragmatic Language Disorder	Use language appropriately in social situations such as greetings, turn-taking, inferred communication, personal space and other commonly expected social behaviors.
Fluency Disorder	Produce speech sounds without frequent disruptions, easily initiate spoken communication or complete spoken communication without interruption. Frequently referred to as stuttering.
Voice Disorder	Produce a vocal quality that is age and gender appropriate.
Swallowing Disorder	Functionally swallow liquids and/or solids to maintain adequate hydration and nutrition.

## Disorder Severity

**MILD** – Standard scores 1 to 1.5 standard deviations below the mean. Standard Score 78-85

- Articulation/Phonology – intelligibility not greatly affected but errors are noticeable.

**MODERATE** – Standard scores 1.5 to 2 standard deviations below the mean. Standard Score 70-77

- Articulation/Phonology – Error patterns may be atypical. Intelligibility is affected and conversational speech is occasionally unintelligible.

**SEVERE** – Standard scores > 2 standard deviations below the mean. Standard Score 69 and below

- Articulation/Phonology – Inconsistent errors and lack of stimulability is evident. Conversational speech is generally unintelligible.

## Professional Certification Speech-Language Pathologists

- Master's Degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders
- State Licensure issued by the NC Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology
- Certificate of Clinical Competence from American Speech & Hearing Association
- A Speech-Language Pathologist screens, evaluates and treats patients with communication and/or swallowing disorders

## Screening

- Pass/Fail procedure
- Identifies need for speech-language evaluation
- Identifies need for referral to other medical services

## Infant/Toddler Evaluation

- Evaluate strengths/weaknesses of early communication interactions.
- Evaluate pre-speech and language function
- Identifies need for referral to other medical services

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## Areas of Impairment

- Articulation & Phonology
- Fluency
- Pragmatic Language
- Receptive & Expressive Language
- Voice
- Swallowing Function
- Need for Augmentative Alternative Communication (AAC)

## Speech-Language Therapy

- Funding requires physician orders for SLP skilled therapy
- Therapy provided to address needs identified in evaluation
- Private therapy is generally provided individually
- Therapy provided in schools to address educational impairments only and is generally provided in group format.
- Frequency: 1-3 times per week, based upon severity of disorder
- Frequency may be determined by insurance limitations.