



When to refer to a Speech Language Pathologist

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Speech Therapy Service Delivery Areas

Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Problem understanding and/or using words to communicate ● Expressive (putting words together), Receptive (understanding), Social
Speech Sounds and Motor Speech	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Impacts the intelligibility (how much is understood) of an individual ● affects the motor programming of speech (Apraxia of Speech + Dysarthria)
Cognition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Deficits that impact; memory, attention, planning, organizing, problem solving, perception, orientation, executive functioning
Swallowing *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Difficulty with one or more phases of the swallow ● Food Avoidance - avoiding certain textures, temperatures, colors, types of foods
Fluency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Problems with the flow of speech these disorders include stuttering and cluttering
Voice / Resonance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Changes in vocal quality
Auditory Rehab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Screening of hearing loss

*I am currently not trained to assess the following alone, they will need to be scheduled based on the availability of my mentor; VFES, FEES, and MBBS

Signs and Symptoms Warranting SLP Referral

Speech/Language/Fluency	Swallowing	Cognition
Decreased intelligibility	Coughing/choking with food/liquid	No purposeful speech
Distorted sounds	Wet/'gurgly' voice	Difficulty responding to questions
Difficulty following social "rules"	Difficulty moving food in mouth	Forgetting words/names
Repetition/Prolongation of Sounds	Pain when swallowing	Lack of orientation
Difficulty following directions	Holding food in mouth	Extremely limited communication
Difficulty answering questions	Drooling	Limited social behaviors
Difficulty understanding what people mean/are saying	Feeling like something is "stuck" in throat	Impaired attention and memory with impulsivity

Common Diagnosis Seen in SLP Referral

ADHD, ASD, ALS, OCD. Aspiration Pneumonia, TBI, CVA, MS, Cancer of the Brain/Head/Neck/Mouth, Parkinsons, Cerebral Palsy, Degenerative Ataxia, Chorea, Dementia, Tics/tremors/spasms, developmental disabilities, intellectual disabilities, neurological disorders, vocal tremor, hearing loss, "late talkers"