INTRODUCTION

Clinicians working with patients with head and neck cancer need to educate and instruct patients and families pre- and post-surgery to maximize functional outcomes and improve quality of life. To adequately do this, SLPs must know—and be able to explain—the basic alaryngeal speech options available to patients who have undergone laryngectomies.

In this session, Barbara Pisano Messing will go over the basics of the three primary types of alaryngeal speech, using anatomical illustrations and video interviews with individuals who have undergone laryngectomies and who use each of the voicing methods. Walk away with resources to share with patients and to use yourself, including an outline of key points for preoperative counseling and post-surgery alaryngeal speech rehabilitation, a glossary, FAQs, and more.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

After completing this session, you will be able to:

- List the three primary alaryngeal speech options
- Discuss pros and cons of the three primary alaryngeal speech options
- Discuss protocol for preoperative counseling and post-surgery alaryngeal speech rehabilitation

PROGRAM HISTORY


EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE

It is the position of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association that audiologists and speech-language pathologists incorporate the principles of evidence-based practice in clinical decision making to provide high-quality clinical care. The term evidence-based practice refers to an approach in which current, high-quality research evidence is integrated with practitioner expertise and client preferences and values into the process of making clinical decisions.

Participants are encouraged to actively seek and critically evaluate the evidence basis for clinical procedures presented in this and other educational programs.

Adopted by the Scientific and Professional Education Board, April 2006