Professional Diversity: How Your Unique Perspective Can Improve Clinical Decision-Making

INTRODUCTION

What are your proudest professional accomplishments? Which clients have you affected most significantly? What distinguishing personal characteristics allow you to make a difference for your clients? Each of us has a unique clinical perspective – informed by our individual background – that can be the critical factor in solving client needs. When we collaborate with colleagues and other professionals, we use diverse perspectives to ensure the best outcomes. The more diversity of backgrounds we have within the professions, the abler we are to serve an increasingly diverse population – and the better our collective clinical decision-making can be.

This course will address how the diverse backgrounds and perspectives of SLPs and audiologists can enhance problem-solving and service provision. The course will also discuss the value of ongoing self-assessment and continuous expansion of our own diversity and cultural knowledge.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

After completing this session, you will be able to:

- describe three areas of practice in which diversity plays a role in improved service delivery
- identify three specific populations that would increase diversity in the professions
- engage in self-exploration and collaboration with colleagues, using your unique perspective to address challenging clinical scenarios

PROGRAM HISTORY and IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**Original recording date:** November 17, 2016

**End date:** November 17, 2020

To earn continuing education credit, you must complete and submit the learning assessment on or before **November 17, 2020**.

To see if this program has been renewed after this date, please search by title in ASHA’s online store at [www.asha.org/shop](http://www.asha.org/shop).

This course is offered for 0.05 ASHA CEUs (Intermediate level, Professional area).
STATEMENT ON 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